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CORPORATION

—· OF ·—

BEDFORD

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Corporation of Bedford.

3rd Decr. 1883.

Sir,

I enclose a copy of the Schedule of the Records of the Corporation of Bedford, recently prepared by me

Yours truly,

Theed Wm. Pearse

pp. G.H.

The Librarian
Bodleian Library
Oxford.

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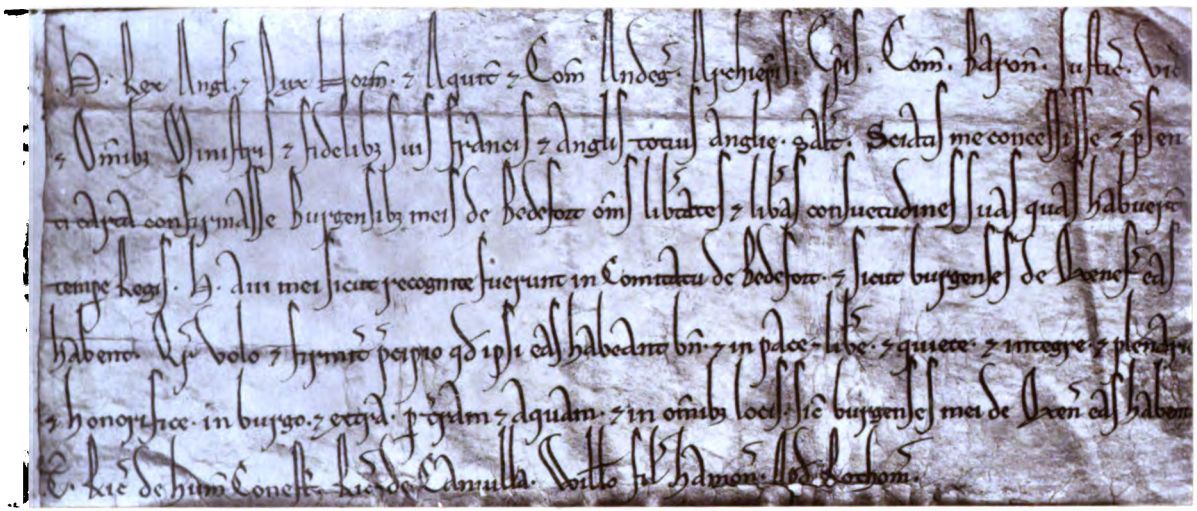

Facsimile of the Earliest Charter in the possession of the Corporation, granted in the Reign of Henry II.

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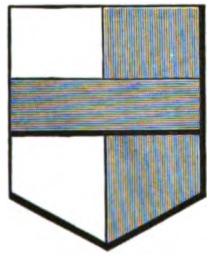
A SCHEDULE

OF THE

RECORDS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS

OF THE

CORPORATION OF BEDFORD.



BIBLIOTHECA BODLEIANA

(The Town Arms and Corporation Arms confirmed by Clarenceau, King of Arms, 7th June, 1556.)

Printed by Order of the Corporation.

BEDFORD, 1883.

THEED WILLIAM PEARSE,
Town Clerk.

J. R. PORTER, PRINTER, BEDFORD.

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BOROUGH OF BEDFORD.

SCHEDULE OF

Charters and Documents of Early Date

IN THE POSSESSION OF THE CORPORATION.

THE Corporation Records were formerly kept in the Evidence House of the Corporation, which was probably in the Mote Hall or Guildhall of the Town. The records were removed to St. Paul's Church in pursuance of a resolution passed 5th July, 1736, which states:—

That "Mr. Mayor shall prepare, make useful, and "cleanse the Evidence House in such manner as he "shall think most expedient, and he shall employ such "persons as he shall judge proper to inspect, sort, and "file in proper order all the writings, records, and papers "that are now therein lodged, and shall agree with and "order payment to the persons therein employed what he "shall think they deserve for their care and trouble. And "whereas the Rev. Mr. Hunt has consented that the "chests and papers in the Evidence House may be "lodged in the vestry of St. Paul's Church, during the "time the said Evidence House shall be repairing, and "that the key of the said vestry shall be delivered to the "Mayor. It is hereby ordered that Mr. Mayor shall "give directions for removing all records, writings, &c.

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"he shall think necessary into the said vestry, the key "of which he shall take charge of, and see the said "records, papers, and writings duly returned when the "Evidence House shall be repaired and cleansed."

Subsequent resolutions of the Corporation direct that documents be deposited in the Evidence House, but it does not appear whether any documents were returned from St. Paul's Church to the Evidence House, nor, if returned when they were again removed to the Church, but it is probable that if any of the records were returned to the Evidence House after having been removed therefrom in pursuance of the above stated resolution, they were again removed to the Church on the disuse of the Guildhall in 1753.

There is no evidence amongst the Corporation records, except the resolution above referred to, to explain the rights or privileges of the Corporation with respect to the use of the chamber in the Church.

The Schedule is prepared in the following order:—

1. The Corporation Charters and documents relating to the rights, liberties, and customs of the Corporation.

2. The Books containing the proceedings of the Common Hall at which the Mayors were elected; of the Court of Aldermen, constituted by the Mayor, Aldermen and Bailiffs, who nominated the officers and admitted the freemen; and of the Common Council.

3. The proceedings of the Ancient Court of Pleas of the Borough, of which the Mayor and Bailiffs were judges, and which had jurisdiction over all causes of action arising within the Borough; with some specimens of the process in the time of Henry IV.

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4. The proceedings of the Leet Court.

5. The "Black Booke."

6. Commissions of the Peace and other documents relating to this subject.

7. A terrier of the Corporation Estates, and of the earlier "hagable" or quit rent roll, and of the demesne rent roll.

8. The grants, leases, and alienations to and from the Corporation, and documents of the same nature connected with estates in which the Corporation have at some time had an interest.

9. All other documents not comprised in either of the above-mentioned heads.

CHARTERS.

The earliest Charter in the possession of the Corporation was granted by Henry II., who "confirmed to his Burgesses of Bedford all "liberties and free customs which they had in the time "of Henry his grandfather, as they were recognized in "the County of Bedford as the Burgesses of Oxford had "them. Henry II.

A Charter of this reign is referred to in a Charter of Henry IV., but a memorandum dated 1780, states that the Charter of Richard I. was not then with the Corporation records. Richard I.

A Charter of Henry III. confirmed to the Burgesses of Bedford all the liberties, customs and laws, which they had in the time of Henry II.,—it enumerates—"A guild merchant with all "their liberties and customs in land, in islands, in Henry III.

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"pastures and other pertinences and that the Burgesses "should have all other customs, laws, and liberties "throughout England and Normandy which they had in "common with citizens of Oxford and that if a doubt "arise concerning any judgment that they should send "messengers to Oxford, and whatever the citizens of "Oxford adjudged should be without doubt firmly done. "The Charter prohibited the Burgesses from pleading "out of the Borough, but that they were to defend "themselves according to the customs of Bedford and "Oxford.

"The Charter then ordains that the Burgesses of "Bedford shall have all the above mentioned liberties, "laws, customs, and tenures with sock and sack, thol "and theam and infangenetheof and all other liberties "and free customs as they had them in the time of "Henry II. and Richard I.

About the year 1560 certain questions were put by the Corporation to the citizens of Oxford relating to the constitution of the Corporation. The answer under the Corporate Seal of the city of Oxford is with the records.

Edward I. A Charter of Edward I. restores to the Burgesses the Mayoralty and other liberties which the Justices in Eyre had declared forfeited.

Edward III. A Charter of Edward III. is much obliterated and injured, as it is not mentioned in the last Charter of Charles II., which is supposed to refer to all previous Charters of importance, no attempt is made to state the objects of it.

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A Charter of this reign is also referred to in the Charter of Henry IV. Richard II.

A warrant from the King to the Lord Chancellor to seal this Charter.

This Charter refers to the Charter of Richard II. in the words following:—"Richard, "by the Grace of God, King of England and "France and Lord of Ireland, to my Archbishops, "Bishops, Abbotts, Priors, Dukes, Earls, Barons, "Justices, Foresters, Sheriffs, Provosts, Ministers, and "all my Bailiffs and faithful people, greeting. We have "inspected a Charter of the Lord Henry, formerly King "of England, our progenitor, to the Burgesses of "Bedford made in these words: Henry, by the Grace of "God, King of England, Lord of Ireland, Duke of "Normandy and Aquitaine and Earl of Anjou. To his "Archbishops, Bishops, Abbotts, Priors, Earls, Barons, "Justices, Foresters, Sheriffs, Provosts, Ministers, and "and all my Bailiffs and faithful people, greeting: know "ye that we have granted and by this our present "Charter have confirmed to our Burgesses of Bedford "and their heirs, the Town of Bedford, with its "appurtenances, to have and to hold of us and our heirs "at a fee farm rent of forty pounds in silver to be paid "at our Exchequer by their hands for all service, viz.: "at Easter twenty pounds and at the Feast of "St. Michael twenty pounds. Wherefore we will and "firmly command that the aforesaid Burgesses and their "heirs do have and hold of us and our heirs the "aforesaid Town with its appurtenances, well and in "peace, freely, quietly, peacefully, entirely, fully and Henry IV.

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"honourably, with all appurtenances, liberties, and free "customs to the aforesaid Borough pertaining at the fee "farm rent of forty pounds in silver per annum at the "terms aforesaid, as aforesaid. These being witnesses; "Peter, Lord Bishop of Winchester; Richard, Lord "Bishop of Salisbury; and Josceline, Lord Bishop of "Bath; Hubert de Burgh, Earl of Kent, our Justiciary; "Ralph Fitz-Nichol and Richard de Argentein, our "Stewards; Henry de Capella and others. Given by "the hand of the Venerable Father Ralph, Bishop of "Chichester, our Chancellor at Westminster on the 23rd "day of March, in the eleventh year of our reign."

The Charter of Richard I. is referred to as follows:—

"We have inspected a certain other Charter of the "Lord Richard, formerly King of England, our "progenitor, to the aforesaid Burgesses, likewise made "in these words: Richard by the Grace of God, King "of England, Duke of Normandy, Aquitaine, Earl of "Anjou. To my Archbishops, Bishops, Abbotts, Deans, "Archdeacons, Earls, Barons, Justices, Sheriffs, Bailiffs, "Ministers, and all my faithful people, French and "English, Greeting: know ye that we have granted and "by our present Charter have confirmed to our "Burgesses of Bedford all their liberties and customs "and laws and acquittances which they had in the time "of King Henry our father, viz.: A guild merchant with "all its liberties and customs in land, in island, in "pastures, and in all other appurtenances so that no "person who is not of that guild shall traffic with them "in City or Borough or Town or in free places. "Moreover we have granted and confirmed to them that

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"they be quit of toll and pontage and stallage and "lastage and passage, and of assarts, and of all other "customs throughout England and Normandy, by earth "and by water, by sea beach, by land and by strand, "and that they have all other their customs throughout "the whole of England, and their liberties and laws "which they have in common with our citizens of "Oxford, and may traffic with them in common with "London and without, and in all other places, and if any "doubt or dispute arise in judgment of what they ought "to do, they shall send their messengers to Oxford, and "and what the citizens of Oxford shall herein adjudge, "that without doubt confirmed, ratified, and certain they "shall have and do: And we prohibit them from "pleading without the Borough of Bedford concerning "anything whereof they are challenged, but that "concerning whatsoever thing they are put in plea, they "shall be allowed to acquit themselves according to the "laws and customs of our citizens of Oxford, and this in "Bedford, and not elsewhere, because they and the "citizens of Oxford are of one and the same custom, "law and liberty: Wherefore we will and freely "command that our aforesaid Burgesses of Bedford do "have and hold their aforesaid Liberties and Laws and "Customs and Tenures as well, peaceably, freely, quietly, "fully, and honourably with sock and sack, and thol and "theam and infangenetheof, and with all other their "liberties and free customs and acquittances as they "ever held them, most freely best and entirely in the "time of King Henry our Father, and as our citizens of "Oxford have those liberties most freely, fully and

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"entirely. Witness: Hugh, Bishop of Durham; G., "Bishop of Winchester; J., Bishop of Norwich; Hugh, "Bishop of Salusbury; William Marshal; John "Marshall; Roger de Pratell; Hugh Bardolf; Robert "de Whitfield; Ralph Fitz-Geoffrey. Given at West-"minster by the hand of William de Longchamp, Elect "of Ely our Chancellor, on the 12 day of November in "the first year of our reign."

The Charter of Henry IV. then orders that—

"We considering the good demeanour of our beloved "the Mayors and Burgesses of our aforesaid Town of "Bedford, who have manfully resisted the malefactors "of certain Counties of our Realm of England, late "Insurgents against our peace and to the hurt of our "Royal Majesty of our especial grace, ratifying and "approving the grants and liberties aforesaid, and all "and singular the things contained in the said Charter, "grant and confirm them for us and our heirs as far as "in us lies, to the Burgesses of the same Town of "Bedford, and their heirs and successors Burgesses "of the Town aforesaid, as the Charters aforesaid "reasonably testify. Willing moreover to shew more "ample grace to the said Burgesses we will and grant to "the aforesaid Burgesses for us and our heirs, that "although they or their ancestors or predecessors "any case arising, have not hitherto used any one or "more of the liberties or acquittances contained in the "said Charter, nevertheless they, the said Burgesses, "and their heirs and successors, Burgesses of the Town "aforesaid, may henceforth fully use and enjoy those "liberties and acquittances and every of them for ever,

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"without let or hindrance of us or our heirs, the Justices, "Escheators, Sheriffs, and other Bailiffs or Ministers or "our heirs whomsoever. Willing moreover in favour of "the Mayor and Burgesses of our Town of Bedford "aforesaid, and in consideration of their good demeanour "aforesaid, the said grant contained in the said Charter "of the aforesaid Richard our progenitor, viz., that the "same Burgesses should have their liberties and laws "which they then had in common with the aforesaid "Citizens of Oxford, we ratify and confirm. And of our "more abundant and ample grace, we will and grant for "us and our heirs as far as in us lies to the aforesaid "Mayor and Burgesses of our aforesaid Town of "Bedford, for ever, that none of the same Burgesses "of our said Town of Bedford shall plead or be "impleaded before us or our heirs or any Justices or "Ministers of us or our heirs, without the aforesaid "Borough of Bedford, for any lands or tenements which "are in that Borough, nor for trespasses, agreements or "contracts made in the same Borough, or other things "whatsoever there arising, but that all such pleas which "shall happen to be summoned or attached before us or "our heirs or any of our Justices of the Bench, or other "our Justices or Ministers whomsoever, to be pleaded "without the said Borough of Bedford or within, shall be "pleaded and determined within the same Borough, before "the Mayor and Bailiffs of that Borough for the time "being, and not elsewhere, unless those pleas affect us, "or our heirs, or the Commonalty of the Borough afore-"said, and that the same Burgesses and their heirs and

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"successors aforesaid, be not put with strangers on any "assizes, juries or inquests, which by reason of "tenements or trespasses or other foreign businesses, "whatsoever shall arise to be done before us the Justices "or other Ministers of us or our heirs, so long as they "shall make stay in the same Borough, and that "strangers be not put with the same Burgesses on any "assizes, juries or inquests which by reason of lands or "tenements being in the same Borough or of trespasses, "agreements, or contracts or other internal business "there arising to be taken. And that concerning any "pleas arising within the Borough, they be not convicted "by strangers, but only by their Co-burgesses, except "such affairs affect us or our heirs, or the Commonalty "of the said Borough. And that the Mayor and Bailiffs "of the Borough aforesaid for the time being, may make "executions within the Borough aforesaid of all "recoveries or recognizances made before them, and of "damages adjudged before them in the same manner as "do our citizens of London, and that henceforth it be "written in the Chancery of us and our heirs by our "writs of Right Patent to the Mayor and Bailiffs of the "aforesaid Borough of Bedford, as it is written to the "Mayor and Sheriffs of London. And that the same "Burgesses in all actions touching their tenements, "rents, and tenures aforesaid, may plead by our said "writ of Right Patent, by making certain protestation "thereof according to the form and nature of every our "writ at their choice to be pleaded. And that the "clerk of the Market henceforth do not interfere in "presence of us or our heirs within that Borough,

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"to exercise his office for anything affecting the "same Borough, saving nevertheless that if in the "presence of us or our heirs, anyone shall complain that "the aforesaid Mayor and Bailiffs executing the office "of the Market are negligent or remiss, then the "Chancellor of us or our heirs for the time being, by "himself or by another Clerk of the Chancery whom he "shall depute to this, shall survey that concerning which "complaint shall so have been made, and shall correct "and amend the defects if any shall be found and in "due manner furnish and chastise the Mayor and "Bailiffs, saving always to us and our heirs the fines and "amercements of the same Mayor and Bailiffs in this "behalf, and that the same Burgesses their heirs and "successors throughout our whole realm and dominion, "as well by land as by water, as well within London as "without, in all places may freely purchase in all manner "of merchandise and victuals, as well of aliens as of "natives and sell the same to them without the "hindrance of anyone, in the same way as our Citizens "of London, and that no merchant or other shall go out "to meet merchants or others by land or by water "coming towards the Borough aforesaid with victuals or "other things for sale, to buy thereof or sell again, until "such victuals or things for sale shall have come "within that Borough to the place there ordained "for the sale of the same, and shall there have been "exposed for sale, under forfeiture of the thing "bought and penalty of imprisonment, from which without "due punishment he shall not escape, and that no one "shall there expose for sale his merchandizes which owe

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"custom, until the custom due thereon be levied, "under pain of the accustomed forfeiture, and that "the said Burgesses and their heirs and successors "aforesaid for ever be quit throughout the whole of our "realm and dominion, of toll, paviage, murage, pontage, "passage, stallage, lastage, keyage, piccage, carriage, "rivige, anchorage, strandage, chiminage, terrage, and all "their things, goods, and merchandize, and if anyone "in all England shall take from the aforesaid Burgesses "toll or other custom, of which they ought to be quit "after such person shall so have unrightfully acted the "Mayor and Bailiffs of Bedford shall take distress "thereof at Bedford and detain it until restitution be "made of the distresses so taken and that no one who "is not of their guild shall sell any wines or merchandize "or any other saleable goods within the said Town of "Bedford in retail. And that they and their heirs and "successors be quit of giving money for murder "within the Borough aforesaid. And that none "of them shall make duel. And that of Pleas "pertaining to the Crown, they may be able to "acquit themselves according to the law and custom of "London. And that the Hustings be holden only once "a week within the Borough aforesaid, and that the "Mayor and Bailiffs of that Borough for the time being, "may hold twice a year a view of frankpledge, and do all "those things which do or may pertain to that view, and "the keeping of our peace. Wherefore we will and "firmly command for us and our heirs that the aforesaid "Burgesses of Bedford, and their heirs and successors "for ever, may have and hold all and singular the

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"liberties and acquittances aforesaid, so by us specified "and granted, and may henceforth fully enjoy and use "them and every of them in manner and form above "expressed, without let or hindrance of us or our heirs, "the Justices, Escheators, Sheriffs, or other Bailiffs, or "Ministers of us or our heirs whomsoever. These being "witnesses, the Venerable Father W. Archbishop of "Canterbury, Primate of all England, Thomas Arch-"bishop of York, Primate of England our Chancellor, "R., Bishop of London; R., Bishop of Chichester; "S., Bishop of Worcester; John, Duke of Aquitaine and "Lancaster; Edmund, Duke of York; Thomas, Duke "of Gloucester, our most dear uncles; Henry, Earl of "Derby; Richard, Earl of Arundel; Thomas, Earl "Marshall and Nottingham; Henry, Earl of Northum-"berland; Roger Walden, our Treasurer; Thomas de "Percy, Steward of our household, and others. Given "under our hand at Westminster, on the 3rd day of "January, in the 19th year of our reign."

The Charter of Henry IV. refers to the Charter of Henry II. as having granted the Town, but that Charter appears to have confirmed a previous grant.

A Charter of 2 Henry VI. confirms the Charter of Henry IV. Henry VI.

Another Charter of this reign states that it appeared by an Inquisition taken near Bedford, that the Town was charged with £46 payable to the Crown, besides £20 for tithes "when they shall happen," and other burthens. "And that the Town had come into such excessive decay and ruin on account of the great burthens and paucity of inhabitants, that the said sum

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could not be levied, nor the other burthens of the Town supported without causing injuries and extortions to the men inhabiting the Town and others of the County coming to the same, and to the destruction of the two Bailiffs annually elected in the same Town, and so the Town unless it had been provided by the King with support and relief would very probably have been destroyed." That a new bridge had been built at Barford, and that this bridge had become so great a thoroughfare to the other market Towns of the County for people who formerly came to Bedford, that the strays and chattels, tolls and customs which were due there to the Mayor and Commonalty had been entirely lost; and the greater part of the men inhabiting the Town were ready to abandon it unless some remedy were provided by the King.

It was therefore granted that the Mayor, Bailiffs, Burgesses, and Commonalty should, for the term of sixty years, be acquitted of £22 of the fee-farm rent.

These amounts are now payable, and are represented by the following items in the accounts of the Borough Treasurer:—

	£	s.	d.
Rev. R. E. R. Watts, Vicar of St. Paul, 1 year's quit rent	11	12	8
Representatives of T. Hutchinson, Esq., 1 year's fee-farm rent	3	19	8
	£15	12	4

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A Charter of 2 Edward IV. contains a pardon to the Mayor, Bailiffs, Burgesses and Commonalty for crimes and offences therein enumerated; those specially mentioned being violation of the statutes as to liveries and retainers, intrusion into the temporalities of the Church, offences against forest laws, unpaid scutages and reliefs. Edward IV.

Adherents to Henry VI. are excepted from the benefit of the Charter.

Another Charter of 2 Edward IV. confirmed Charters of Henry VI. and Richard II. without granting any fresh privilege.

A Charter of 10 Henry VII. confirmed Charters of Henry IV. and Henry VI. Henry VII.

A Charter of 19 Henry VII. granted that the Corporation should be charged with £20 a year only for the fee-farm rent of the Town.

A Charter of 1 Henry VIII. grants a pardon to the Corporation for all offences committed prior to the twenty-third day of April then last past. Henry VIII. The offences are for the most part under obsolete statutes, and it seems to be unnecessary to enumerate them; but in compliance with the wish to have full details of the Charters in this Schedule, the offences are specified, viz:—

"Treasons, felonies, escapes of convicted Clerks, and "other persons, rebellions, uttering treasonable and "seditious words, riots, unlawful assemblies, forcible "entries, perjuries, oppression, extortion, bribery as to "verdicts, maintenance, champerty destruction, erasing "and altering records and other legal documents, unjust

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"claims and prosecutions, misuser and nonuser of "franchises and liberties, of the view of frankpledge, "false returns and omission to return writs, offences "against Sheriffs, their deputies, Escheators, and other "officers, contempts of and other offences relating to "Judges, Justices and other Officers and Ministers of "the Crown; offences against statutes of laborers, "giving signs and liveries to servants contrary to the "Statute 2, Henry 2, cap. 21 and 14, Henry 7; "violations of forest and game laws, violations of the "Statute relating to weirs and floodgates 12 Edward 4, 7; "offences against Statute 4 Henry 7, relating to the "export of gold and silver; intrusion into the tempor-"alities of bishoprics, benefices, colleges, hospitals and "ecclesiastical houses; infringement of the Statutes "relating to mortmain, the unlawful taking possession "of the goods, chattels, lands, and tenements of felons, "or of waifs and estrays, offences against the statutes "of provisoes, entries into lands without proper "livery of sesein being conferred, intrusions into Crown "lands, offences against the laws relating to lands held "by Knight service waste, illegal alienation of land held "under the Crown, non-payment of subsidy and benev-"olences, unlawful entries in the lands of lunatics and "idiots, usuary, illegal dealings in gold, silver, wool, and "various wares, selling unguaged liquors, illegal export-"ation and importation of goods, ingrossing, forestalling "and regrating, false entries of goods in the books of "custom house officers, forfeiture of recognizances, "violations of the statutes relating to unlawful games, "illegal fortification of houses.

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Letters Patent, refers to Letters Patent of Henry VIII., Letters Patent of Henry IV., a Charter of Richard II., another Charter of Richard II., and Letters Patent of Henry VI. The Letters Patent of 1 Edward VI. states that by a former Inquisition near Bedford, under Letters Patent of Henry VI., it was found that the Town of Bedford was granted to the Mayor, Bailiffs, Burgesses, and Commonalty for £46 annually, and ordains that the Town shall owe £20 annually for the fee-farm rent, and be discharged from £26 the remainder. 1 Edward VI.

Letters Patent. Pardon to the lieges and inhabitants of Bedford for all treasons, mesprizions of treasons, insurrections, rebellions, illegal assemblies and conventicles, confederations, illegal congregations, falsities, negligences, oppressions, murders, felonies, transgressions, attempts and offences committed before the eighth day of July, in the third year of his reign. 3 Edward VI.

Letters Patent. A grant to the Mayor, Bailiffs, Burgesses, and Commonalty, near the Town during four days, and at a Market Place in Saint Mary, of a Fair to be held in the first week of Lent, and of another Fair in the Feast of the Conception and the day after, and of a Market in Saint Mary weekly. Mary.

Letters Patent. Refers to Letters Patent Edward VI., of Henry VIII., of Henry VII., of Edward IV., Charter of Confirmation Henry VI., Letters Patent Henry IV., Charter Richard II., Charter Richard I., Letters Patent Henry VI., of Henry VII., and other Letters Patent of Henry VI. "It is ordered Mary.

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that the Mayor, &c., should be indebted in £20 of the fee-farm rent, and discharged of the remainder."

Elizabeth. Letters Patent of Elizabeth confirmed other Charters and Letters Patent. It is not in possession of the Corporation, but was confirmed by Letters Patent of Charles II.

James I. Letters Patent of James I. refers to Letters Patent of Mary, of Edward VI., of Henry VIII., of Henry VII., Charter of Confirmation Henry VI., Letters Patent of Henry IV., of Richard II., of Henry III., of Richard I., other letters patent Henry VI., and of Henry VII. The Charter grants that the Mayor, Bailiffs, Burgesses, and Commonalty of the Town of Bedford, otherwise called the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Burgesses of the said Town, otherwise called the Mayor of the said Town, or by whatsoever name or names they may be called or incorporated, shall be free from £26 of the fee-farm rent.

Charles II. Letters Patent of Charles II., the last Charter granted to the Corporation, confirmed Charters of Richard I., Henry III., Richard II., Henry IV., Henry VI., the confirmatory Charter of Edward IV., 10 Henry VII., Henry VIII., 1 Edward VI., the confirmatory Charter of Mary and the Charter of Elizabeth.

A full translation is given of so much of this Charter as is not confirmatory:—

"And furthermore we will and by these presents for "us, our heirs and successors do ordain and steadfastly "enjoying, do command that the Mayor, Bailiffs, "Burgesses, Recorder, and Town Clerk, and all other

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"officers and ministers of the Town of Bedford "aforesaid, and their Deputies and all Justices of the "Peace of us our heirs and successors within the Town "aforesaid, by virtue or according to the tenor of the "same Letters Patent or any other Letters Patent "hereafter to be nominated, elected or appointed before "they shall be admitted to the execution or exercise of "the office or offices of the place or places to which they "shall so respectively be nominated, elected or appointed "or in anywise enter upon in that behalf or any of them "respectively enter upon, shall take and every one of "them shall take as well the Corporal Oath commonly "called the oath of obedience as the Corporal Oath "commonly called the Oath of Supremacy upon the "Holy Gospels of God, before such person or persons as "for the administering and taking such oaths of the law "and statutes of this our Realm of England are at "present appointed and assigned; and further we will "and declare our Royal intention to be that no Recorder "or Town Clerk of the Town aforesaid, henceforth to "be elected or constituted, shall enter upon such office "or offices, or either of them respectively, before they "and every of them respectively shall have been "approved of by us our heirs or successors, notwith-"standing anything in these presents contained or any "other thing, cause, or matter whatsoever, in anywise to "the contrary thereof, notwithstanding express mention "of the true yearly value or of the certitude of the "premises or any of them, or of any other gifts or "grants before this made by us or by any of our "progenitors or predecessors to the aforesaid Mayor,

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"Bailiffs, and Burgesses of the Town of Bedford "aforesaid, is in nowise made in these presents or any "statute, act, ordinance, provision, proclamation or "restriction to the contrary thereof, hitherto had made "published, ordained, or provided or any other thing, "cause, or matter whatsoever in anywise notwithstand-"ing."

The Constitution of the Common Council.

The Mayor, Aldermen, Bailiffs, Common Councilmen and the Recorder were the Common Council.

The Court of Aldermen, of which the Mayor Aldermen and Bailiffs were members, nominated one Burgess annually to the Office of Mayor; the Common Council nominated another Burgess for the office.

The Mayor and Common Councilmen were elected at an assembly of the Freemen called a Common Hall.

The other members of the Council were elected at a Court of Aldermen.

There is no record of the proceedings of the Common Council until the year 1647, from which time, except from 1718 to 1721, there is a continuous entry of the proceedings of the Council.

Previously to the passing of the Municipal Corporations Act, the Common Council admitted Freemen at their discretion. The power of admission was much abused, for in 1769, after numerous admissions of non-residents, 500 were admitted in the interest of Sir Robert Barnard, afterwards the Recorder of the Borough.

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In 1780 Sir Robert Barnard lent the Corporation £950, and it may be assumed that the loan was not entirely unconnected with this last admission of Freemen. A receipt dated 1789, in discharge of the Principal and interest due on the mortgage was endorsed upon the security to Sir Robert Barnard, and signed by his executors, although the Corporation had not then paid anything whatever, on account of the mortgage. The mortgage came into the hands of a Mr. Monkhouse, who instituted a suit in Chancery, against the Corporation, and compelled them to pay all principal and interest due on the mortgage.

	£	s.	d.
The sum payable under the decree in Chancery was.....	2528	15	4
Towards which the Corporation had paid various sums amounting together to	845	10	0
	1683	5	2
The expenses of the Corporation were.....	335	7	6
	£2018	12	8

As a means of paying off this sum, the Corporation in 1814 called in the sum of £900 advanced to the Improvement Commissioners on the security of the paving fund, and sold 14a. 2r. 20p. of land in Saint Peter for £1050.

An Index to the proceedings of the Common Council is contained in Appendix No. 1 to this Schedule.

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Court of Pleas.

The Court of Pleas was held before the Mayor and Bailiffs, it had extensive powers when the cause of action arose in the Town.

Specimens of some of the original process of the Court of the time of Henry VIII. are with the records, but the earliest record of the proceedings of the Court is of the period of about the commencement of the reign of Elizabeth.

There is a regular record of the proceedings of the Court from 1626 to 1789. There is no record of the Court since the latter date.

An opinion of Sir John Campbell, afterwards Lord Chancellor, obtained by the Council after the passing of the Municipal Corporations Act, was to the effect that the Court might have been revived.

Court Leet and Court Baron.

These Courts were held by the Corporation in respect of their manorial rights.

There are entries of the proceedings of the Court Leet from 1558 to 1687, but it does not appear that there are any records of the proceedings of the Court Baron. The Court Baron was doubtless held after the year 1687, because it is stated that the earliest roll of the quit rents, of the date 1681, was confirmed at Courts Baron held in 1696 and 1698.

For watching and other purposes under the cognizance of the Court Leet the Town was divided into twelve wards, *i.e.* the East Ward, the West Ward, the Mill

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Lane Ward, the Saint Cuthbert Ward, the Saint Peter Ward, the Well Street Ward, the Saint Lloyds Ward, the Prebend Ward, the Potter Street Ward, the Saint Johns Ward, the Cauldwell Street Ward, and the High Street Ward.

The quit rents or "hagable" rents were fixed at the Leet Court. The earliest roll of these rents is of the date 1681; it appears from this roll that rents were paid in respect of about 625 acres, but it is scarcely possible to ascertain how the rents originated. The rents are in their nature distinguishable from those rents or payments which have been imposed by the Corporation as the condition of holding some right or privilege in the Town. For a period extending over many years previously to the passing of the Municipal Corporations Act, there had been no attempt to distinguish between the quit rents and the other rents or payments imposed by the Corporation, and it would be now very difficult, if not impossible, to make an accurate distinction between the different classes of rents or payments.

The roll of 1681 comprises Appendix No. 2 to the Schedule.

The irregularity in collecting the rents is not of recent date because it is stated on the roll of 1681 that each rent was ten years in arrear.

The Acts of the Corporation furnish but slight information of the circumstances under which the other rents or payments were fixed.

Except in few instances it cannot be ascertained to what properties the rents attach.

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As some of the rents or payments which have been considered to be quit rents are connected with rights of access to the river, it may be noted that no quit rent appearing in the earlier roll has reference to any such right.

The "Black Booke."

The "Black Booke" was made in the fifth year of the reign of Elizabeth, and is stated to have been made "for "three cheiff causes and devyded into the parts. The "fyrst was for all constitutions. The seconde was to "recorde all fynes. The thirde was to recorde and inroll "all manner of dede and indenture of bargayne and saile "of land and tenement wythin the Borough."

The fines and indentures of bargain and sale recorded in the Court were the assurances that, according to the then state of the law, it was necessary to enroll in order to alienate property in the Town.

The description of property in these fines and assurances is entirely technical and does not afford the present means of identification with any property in the Borough.

An extract from the Black Book is contained in appendix No. 2 to this Schedule.

Commission of the Peace and Quarter Sessions.

The Record of the proceedings of the Quarter Sessions of the borough commences in 1558. The Quarter Sessions were held up to the time of the passing of the Municipal Corporations Act in 1835, by the operation of which Act they were discontinued; but a grant of a

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separate Court of Quarter Sessions for the borough was again made in 1846.

The Commissions of the Peace are of the following dates:—Philip and Mary, Elizabeth, James I., Charles, William IV., Victoria.

The Corporation Estates.

The whole town was vested in the Corporation under the charter of Henry II.

The fact that in 1681 quit rents were payable for about 625 acres of land, and for several houses, shews that the Corporation had granted that portion of the Corporate estates subject to the quit rents; but except as to small portions, only slight evidence can be obtained of the occasions when the Corporation alienated the other estates of which they are not now the owners.

It may be that in the period of depression referred to in the charter of 25 Henry VI., the Corporation ceased to exercise acts of ownership over portions of their estates.

The records even of a comparatively recent date afford but slight information of the alienation of property by the Corporation.

The earliest demesne roll is of the year 1660. The rent roll comprises Appendix No. 4 to the Schedule.

The Chamberlains received the rents of the estates. Their accounts commence in the reign of Elizabeth. The accounts of the Bridge Wardens of that period are entered in the same book with the Chamberlains' accounts.

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The undermentioned deeds of conveyance are with the Records of the Corporation, but no information can be given of the connection of the Corporation with several of these documents.

Henry III. Deed of Gift from William Blanchpayne of Messuage in the Parish of All Saints, Bedford.

Henry III. Deed of Gift from———to Stephen de Valle of a Messuage in All Saints, Bedford, yearly payments to the Master of the Hospital of Saint John.

Edward (?). Copy record of Fine relating to land at Bedford (parish not named).

Edward. Grant by William De (? Syell) of two roods of land in the field of Bedford to Ranulph de Plumpsted.

Edward I. Grant by Master Roger the Physician of Bedford to Robert son of John the Grandson of Bedford of a Messuage in Bedford.

Edward I Grant by Henry the son of (? name) to Gilbert (? name) of land in the field of Bedford.

Edward I. Release from the Parson of Cranfield and others.

Edward I Release of rent in respect of land at Cranfield.

Richard II. Grant by John Howden to Corporation of Glebe (Perydiches).

Henry IV. (?) Release by a Prebendary of the Prebenda Major of Saint Mary, Bedford.

Henry VI. Deed of Confirmation.

Henry VI. Release by Richard Dymbulton (?) of claim in respect of a Messuage in Saint Paul.

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A Grant of right of common to the Corporation from the Prior of Newnham. 8 Henry VIII., 20th August.

Indenture between the Ryght Reverend Fader in God John Prior of the house or priory of Saint Paull of Nuneham and the convent of the same place wythin the Counte of the on ptye and Simon West Mayor of the Town of Bedford the Bayliffs Burgesses and Coialtie of the same town of the other ptye Witnesseth that the said prior and convent by the hole consent and assent covenanted and granted that they shall make to the said Mayor Bayliffs Burgesses and Coialtie sufficient grant and coien of pasture for all maner of bestes all seasons of the yere in the leye grounde lying in the pish of Sint Paull and the same leye and grounde abutteth in length from a stone marke or bounde lying against Gebens forth (?) on to the North Flode Gate thar as Fort Mille stod and in length from the said Flode Gate to a crosse called Buhtyes Crosse and the brede of the sayd grounde and leye from the sayd stone marke to the sayd Flode Gate is from the land called Wale of the North syde to the marke of the South syde and the brede of the sayd grounde and leye from the said Flood Gate to the sayd crosse is from the sayd grounde called the Wale to the Water called the water of Ouze of the South side and the same grant to be made over in such wyse as it shall be advised by the lerned Councell of the said Mayor, Bailiffs, Burgesses, and Coialtie and it shall be lawful for them yerely at there pleasure to sett selions upon the same and ground and to have for evermore as well all the loppe and other profits of the same selions as be thar so sett as off

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all other willowye nowe growing upon the same leye and grounde and whensoever the Prior and Convent or their assigns should make any pitts either for cley stones or gravel or any place within the and bounds of the said Towne of Bedford excepte in a grounde called the Marshe lying in the parysh of Sent Cuthbert which is now enclosed by the said Prior. Then the said Prior to full fyll and stop agyn the sayd pitts sufficiently and that within the space of two yeres then next following the same digging and that they shall be from henceforth comyng from the said leye and grounds with no maner of catell at no season of the yere but only at such time as the said land called the Seal lyeth fallowe. Also the Mayor, Bayliffs, Burgesses, and Coialties covenenten and granten to the Prior and his successors that they shall have all times of the yere for ever more on the said leyes or ground free passage bothe with carts, horses, oxen and all other cattell as they have used thar passage before this tyme and if it fortune any cattell of any of the inhabitant of the said Towne negligently to escape on to the ground of the said Prior beyond the said stake that then the said Prior and his successors shall for the same escape take action of trespass against the same person which be owners of the same cattell.

30 Henry VIII — 1st February. Lease from John Gostwick, Treasurer of the King of first "frute and tennyths" of 5 acres of land in Trumpington Mead.

30 Henry VIII. — Lease from Corporation to John Gostwick, Treasurer of the King of first "frute and tennyths" of 5 acres of land in Trumpington Mead.

Edward VI — Release by Roger le Baker.

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Release from John "the Baker of Bedford" to Robert, son of Robert le Barber, in respect of a Messuage in St. Cuthbert. Edward VI.

Deed of Assurance by Cæsar Alderman, to Sir William Harpur and Dame Alice his wife, of 13 acres 1 rood of land in St. Andrew, Holborn, for one hundred and four-score pounds in full. 1564 Sept. 30.

Bond for the performance of the covenants of a lease mentioned in the above deed.

The Property comprised in this deed is thus described. "Thirtene acres and one rode of medow, with th' appurtennces late in the tenure or occupacon of the said Peter Peckham and nowe in the tenure or occupation of the said Sir William Harpur or his assignes, lyinge and beynge in the saide paryshe of Sainte Andrewe of Holborne, in the Countie of Midd., as aforesaid, to the late monastery or Chre House nyghe the citie of london, late dissolved of late belongynge or apperteynynge of which Thirteen Acres and one rode of medowe thre acres and thre rodes there together do lye, and be in lengthe from the northe parte or syde of a certen dyche gardens and houses of the late Pryorie and covent of the saide late monastorye or charter House, towardes and nyghe the strete of Holborne of the southe parte, towards the northe parte or syde of a diche of one crofte of lande called lytle condytte of of the north partie and in bredeth extendinge from the weste parte or syde of a diche of lande whiche once was of Richard Mordane and afterwards of Sir Thomas Tresham Knyght and late of Roger Grove citezeine and grocer of london parcell of a certain

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tenement once called the Redd Lyon of the easte partie towards the lande of the saide Peter Peckham late of John Mycklowe of the weste partie lyinge in the hinder parte of a certain house once called the Cocke and late called the Rose late of the saide Peter Peckham and of the saide Johne Mycklowe and seven acres one rode and a halfe rode of medowe lyckewyse parcell of the saide thirtene acres and one rode of medowe do lye together betwene the saide landes of the saide Peter Peckham and fence of the saide John Mycklowe towards his saide house called the Rose of the easte partie and other lands late of the said Peter Peckham and fence of the saide Johne Mycklowe of the west partie and do extend from the gardens of the saide late Pryor and Covente nyghe the and a certen parcell of land of the same late Pryor and Covente in the whiche lately a certain grange or barne was sett and from a diche of other gardens late of the saide Pryory and Covent of the southe partie unto a dyche of the same seven acres one rode and a halfe rode of the northe partie and allso all his ryght title and interest in one way or usuall entrie ledynge from the Quenes Strete of Holborne aforesaide from the southe partie unto the saide seven acres one rode and a halfe rode of medowe nyghe the wey aforesaide liyng betwene a garden and parcell of the landes of the saide late pryor and covent in the which a grange or barne late stode of the easte partie and a certen parcell of lande of the saide late pryor and late covent in the whiche one cotage late was scituate with a garden to the same adioynyng of the weste partie and of the saide sevene acres one rode and a halfe rode of the north partie."

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Bond for the performance of Covenants in a lease mentioned in this deed.

By an Act of Parliament 4 George III., the Estates given by Sir William Harpur and Dame Alice his wife "for the benefit of the poor and other objects of charity in the Town," were vested in the Corporation upon trust to apply the rents and profits for "the several charitable and other purposes."

This Statute was repealed by an Act 33 George III., whereby the Estates were vested in other Trustees.

Hilary Term. Indenture of Fine between Sir William Harpur and Dame Alice his wife Plaintiffs and Cesar Alderman and Margaret his wife deforciants of 13 acres of land. 7 Elizabeth

Feoffment by Simon Beckett to Robert Taylor and Dorothy his wife of 16 acres of land in Bedford. 7 Elizabeth.

There is an endorsement on this deed that sesin of the land was delivered in the presence of the Mayor and others.

6th December. Lease to Richard Baron of 13 acres 3 roods of land in Saint Andrew, Holborn. 8 Elizabeth

An order relating to rights of common in the words following:— 11 Elizabeth.

"The Order of the Right Honorable Walter Myldemaye Smytt one of the Quene maties most honorable Pryvie Councell and of the Right Worshipfull Gilbert Bernard and Richard Duflowe Esquires, her highnes Attrneye and Solicitor genall Between the Corporacon and inhabitants of the Towne of Bedd on thon ptie and

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Thoms Leyght esquire on th'other partie.

"Whereas of late a supplicacon was exhibited unto ye Quene matie on the behalf of the Maior Bailiffs Burgesses and Commaltie of the Towne of Bedd in the Counte of Bedd against Thoms Leyght of Caldwell in the same Counte esquire touching therefore of one pcell of Leye-ground called Marshe Leyes contayning by estimacen fourten acres and of certen arable lands lieing in the comon fielde nere adioyning to ye said Towne of Bedd Wherein th'inhabitants and pishions of the pishes of St. Marie and St. Johne within ye said towne and parcell of ye corporacon thereof (by their allegacon) have used time out of minde of man to have common of pasture for ther cattell and now are interrupted and denyed thereof by the said Thoms Leyght and forclosed by the inclosure aforesaid Whereupon dyvers of the Quene mats most honorable privie Councell by her highenes appoyntment for redres to be had in the pmisses have addressed ther leres unto ye said Mr. Walter Myldemaye Gilbert Bernard and Richard Duflowe whereby they thought good to require them to call before them the pties abovesaid And for the voiding of all inconveniences wch theroppon aryse and growe To do as muche as in them might lye for th'examinacon of the wholl and circumstance of the matter an in th'end to set suche order therein as to justice shoold appteyne Whereupon the said Mr. Walter Mildemay Gilbert Bernard and Richard Duflowe have called before them the said pties together with ther Councell lerned delibatelie hearing the said cause in controversie between the said pties with all suche

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allegacons and objections as eyther of them had against th'other And forasmuche as uppon the debatinge of the said matter yt could not be denyed by the said Thoms Leyght But that th'inhabitants (all but artyficers) of the said pishes of St. Marie and St. Johne have and ought to have comon in the said Marsheleyes for ther cattell And that the said Marsheleyes now enclosed by the said Thoms Leyht was never enclosed before But laye always open according to th'anncient usage of the fields thereabouts tyll nowe of late Yt ys therefore this present the eighte and twentye daye of January in the eleventh yere of the rayne of our Ladye Elizabth by the Grace of God of England France and Ireland Quene Defender of the faythe and by th'assent of both the said pties Ordered by the said Mr. Walter Mildemay Gilbert Bernard and Richard Duflowe in maner and foorme following That is to saye Fyrst for restitucon of comon to suche as of right ought to common therein They do order that the sayde Thoms Leyght shall before the fyrst daye of Marche next ensuing the date herof laye open and make playne wth the grownd of the hedge and dytche wch enclosethe the said marshe leyes a gappe contayning eyghten foote in lengthe at a place nerest adjoyning to smaller Balke and nerest to the Towne of Bedd to th'end that suche of th'inhabitants aforesaid as of right therein ought to comon may have free ingres egres and regres in to and from the said marshe leyes with ther cattell for the using of ther saide comon And that the saide Thoms Leyght shall at all times from henceforth pmytt and suffer the same marshe leyes to lye open and playne with ye ground at the said place XVIII en foote in lenghte and shall lykewyse pymtt and suffer

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the inhabitants quietlie to pceave and take ther common in the said marshe leyes according to ther anncient usage Provided alwaies that yf the said Thomas Leyght shall at anye tyme hereafter thinke that the said inhabitants or any of them usethe ther common in the said marshe leyes with more or greter number of Cattell or in any other forme than they ought to doe by anncient usage that is to say in any other seazon than hathe ben used or with the cattle of any other psone or psons than have bene accustomed That the said Thomas Leyght may by dystress or other lawfullwyse bring the tytle thereof in question at the Comon Lawe with anye of the said inhabitants so as they nor any of them be more than once dysturbed by distress or otherwyse tyll the tytle thereof be carried And for the residewe of the said arable lands wch the said Thoms Leyght hath alredie and goythe aboute to enclose yt is lykewise ordered that he shall suffer the said inhabitants according to the anncient usage peaceablie and quietlye to pceave and take ther comon therein And to th'end that a finall ende and quietting should be sett between the said pties wch woold be to commoditye of every of them yt is lykewyse ordered by th'assent of bothe the said pties That all matters depending between the said Thoms Leyght and the inhabitants of the towne of Bedd or anye of them shoold be comprimytted to the hearing order and determynacon of Mr. Robt. Catlyn Lord Chiefe Justyce of Englond named by the said Thoms Leyght at ye said time and of Thoms Recorder of the said towne named for the said inhabitants and assented to by the same Thomas Leyght for the entent aforesaid

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In wytnes whereof the sayde Mr. Walter Mildemaye Gilbert Bernard and Richard Duflowe to either partie of these presents have sett there seales the daye and yere above wrytten."

Counterpart of Lease by Corporation to William Paradyne and others of one hundred acres of land commonly called the Prebend land for 21 years. 27 Elizabeth

Lease by Corporation of Ground called "Harmott Willows" to James Bell for 21 years. 1 James I.

Indenture of Fine (illegible). James I.

3rd June. Grant by Thomas Hawes the elder to George Hawes of rent charge of £30 a year on Lands in Conington Hunts. 1 Charles I.

Letters of Charles I. 1626.

By the Kinge.

"Trustie and welbeloved having observed in the presidents and customes of former times that all the Kings and Queenes of ys Realme uppon extraordinarie occasions have used to resorte either to those contribucons wch arise from the generalitie of subjects or to the private helpes of some well affected in pticular by waie of loane in the former of wch courses as wee have noe doubt of the love and affection of or people when they shall assemble againe in ye parliament soe for ye present wee are inforced to proceed in ye later course for supplie of some porcons of Treasure for divers publique services wch whout manifold inconveniences and imment danger to us and our Kingdomes cannot be deferred and therefore wee doubt not but wee shall receive such a testimonie from you (amongst other of or principall and

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most able subjects) wee maie make the same so much the more acceptable especially seeing we have a mind resolved to expose all our earthly fortune for prservacon of ye genall The some wch wee require of you by virtue of these psents is Fiftie Poundes wch wee doe promise in the name of our heires and successors to repaie to you or yor assignes wthin eighteene monthes after ye paiemt yereof unto ye Collector The person that wee have appointed to collect it is Sr Robert Napper, Knight to whose hands wee doe require you to send it wthin twelve daies after you have received this privie seale wch together with the Collectors acquaintance shalbe sufficient warrant unto ye Officers of our Receipt for repaiemt yereof at ye time limted. Given under or privie seale at or pallace of Westmr the fourteenth day of August in the second yere of or reigne—1626—Ja. Myller."

"CHARLES R.

Trustie and welbeloved wee greet you well.

It is not unknown unto you that in Feb. last our high Court of Parlt. was by us summoned and assembled to treat of the great and weightie affaires concerning the Church of England and the true Religion therein established and the defence and safetie of the kingdom and that they there continued together untill the 15th of June last wthin wch tyme manie things of good moment and much conducing to our honor and the honour and safetie of this kingdome were propounded and begun to be handled and amongst other things the Comons then assembled taking into their serious considerations our prsent and important

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occasions not for our own private use but for the comon safetie of us and our people, did with one unanimous consent agree to give unto us a supplie of fower entire subsidies and (?) 15 ens and did by order of that house sett downe the daies and times for payment of the same with their loving and free offer unto us, wee did gratiouslee accept even beyond the pressing necessitie of our publique affaires continuallie did expect the reall pformance thereof and wee are assured the same had bin pformed accordinglie, had not the disordered passion of some members of that house contrarie to the good inclinaton of the graver and wiser sort of them so farr misled themselves and others that they neither did nor wold intend that wch concerned the publique defence of the kingdome for wch they were speciallie called. Wherefore when no ovations, admonitions wld stay them though much agt. our hart, wee have dissolved that Parliamt. And the Parliamt. being now ended and yet the necessitie of a supplie of money lying still upon us and pressing us, without wch the Comon safetie of us and our people cannot be defended and maintained but is in eminent and apparent danger to be assailed and swallowed up by a vigilant and powerful enemie, wee have bin enforsed to cast all the waies and meanes wch honbly and iustly wee might take for supply of their important affaires and manie sevall courses have bin propounded and offered unto us. And although no ordinarie rules can pscribe a lawe to necessitie and the comon defence and safetie and even the verie subsistencè of the whole might iustly warrt. us, if out of our royall prrogative and power we should take any waie more

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extraordinary and less indifferent to any part thereof, yet wee desyring nothing more (next to the love and favor of Almighty God, by whose gracious assistance wee desire to governe ourself and all or. actions) than the love of our people, wch wee esteeme as our greatest riches, wee have made choice of that waie wch maie be most equall and acceptable to them. And therefore wee do desire all our loving subiects in a case of this inavoydable necessitie to be a lawe unto themselves and lovinglie freelie and voluntarilie to pforme that, wch by lawe if it had passed formally by an act as was intended they had bin impellable unto and so in a kyndly waie to provide not only for ours, but for their owne defence and for the comon safetie of all our frends and allies and of our lives and honors. The pformance of wch our request will not only give us an ample testimonie of the dutifull and good affeccons of our people in genall but will give us iust encouragemt. the more spedilie to mete in Parlt. Wee therefore desire you forthwith to mete together and to take such order as may best advance our service and in our name to desire and exhort our people according to such instruccons as herewith wee send unto you that they wold not faile freelie to give unto us a full supply answerable to the necessitie of our prsent occasions. And these our lres shalbe your sufficient warrt. and discharge in this behalf. Given under our signet at our Pallace of Westminster the seventh day of July in the second yeare of our raigne.

(Endorsement) WINDEBANKE."

To our trustie and welbeloved our Justices of Peace within our Countie of Bedford and to everie of them."

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Letters relating to Loans to the King from the County of Bedford.

"After our very hartie comendacons were as heretofore wee have written unto you two several lres callinge upon you the Comisions for the loans to cause the moneyes pceedinge hereupon to bee speedily payd into the Exchequer for the better supplyeinge of the publique pressing and important occasions of state and of late his Matie as a prudent prince managinge affayres by the means vouchsafed to looke into the accounte himselfe to see how the loans have beene answered from every shire finde a fallinge shorte as yet in yor county of Bedd from that wch hee expected and wherefore hee trusted this wee might lett you knowe that whatsoever his Maty hath heretofore raised upon his plate jewelry lande loans bales is altogether issued and imployed for the publique and now being in open acton his fleett and army abroade wch by God's goodness have prosprously succeeded honor and reason requiyre to have the undertakinge seconded and supported Wherefore his Matie hath commanded us to enquire of you that with all diligence and speed you cause the remainer of these loans to be collected and payd into the Exchequer but wee are informed that howsover some men have used diligence and business yet in some commissionrs collectors and receyvers there hath bene a greate slackness and that much money that hath bene collected and received upon these loans is yet unanswered to the King Wherefore we requiyre you to look strictly hereunto and not only to cause the remayner of the moneyes to be collected and returned speedily but allsoe to informe where you

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fynd any of the somes detayned or longer retayned than is fittinge by those that should have returned the same. And to the end this business may have no longer ptaction Wee require you forthwith to devyde your selves into several devisions i.e. after your first Meetinge you did and in every devision to call the receyvers and collectors before you and to examine the true state of every receyte and collected amount had within 10 days after recyte of these letters or transcripte hereof and make a certificate unto us how much every receyrer and collector has payd into the Exchequer how much remayneth in every collectors or receyvers hands and how much resteth uncollected and also to make a particular certificate unto us with the names of such as did consent to lend and have not yet payd but still refuse to doe it but this you maye not omitt prcysely to certifye the names of those who beinge summoned to appear before you refused or neglected to come or appeareinge before you refused to lend for that his Maty is resolved of a course against those more fitt for such as stand is affected to the State, And they shall fynd what it is to be devyded from their Kinge and better part of the whole Kingdom when their common interest is concerned. And we not doubtinge of your carefull pformance of these directions wee bidd you hartily farewell, from whytehall, 14 August, 1627.

Yor very lovinge freindes,

THOS. COVENTRY. ROB. MANTON.
THRO. SUFFOLK. J. COKE.
THO. EDMONDS. MAYR. F. DICKENSSON.

Saterday 8 of clock at Ampthill."

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"After or. very hartie Comendacons By yor. lres of the XXVth of this psent month wee understand in what manner you have preeded uppon resceipt of or. late direccons and what care hath byn taken, both before and since, by or. very good Lord the Earle of Cleveland, and by you in the bussines of the Loanes wthin that Countie; Wherein as you have donne service acceptable to his Matie soe wee doubt not but you will contynue the same care and forwardnes in that wch. doth yet remaine undonne. Forasmuch as concerneth those who being willing to paye and are not able to doe itt in this tyme of harvest, wee doe well approve that you forbeare the pressing of the meaner sort untill their harvest bee brought in: But wthall wee require you to call earnestly and wthout any respite of time, on those wo are able to paye presently, and to returne the names of those that either refuse, or seeke to wynne tyme by delaies. And soe wee bidde you very hartily farewell. From Whitehall the last of August, 1627.

Yor. very loving friends,

THO. COVENTRY.	J. L. MANCHESTER.
MARLEBURGH.	E. DORSET.
PEMBROKE.	ROLLIE.
BRIDGEWATER.	J. EDMONDES.
GENL. BATHOST WELLS.	J. COKE.
ROBT. MAUNTON.	JO. DICKENSON.

Comissioners for the Loanes in the Countie of Bedford."

Lease by Corporation to William Mason of Tenement and Orchard. 5 Charles I. 23rd March.

Feoffment by Mayor, Bailiffs, Burgesses and Commonalty to John Easton of orchard in Saint Paul—Quit rent 5 pence. 20 Charles I.

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1636 1st August. Feoffment by Corporation to John Whittaker of three cottages in Saint Peter.

1659. Court Rolls of the Manor of Bozeat 1659 and earlier dates.

1672. Certified extract from Domesday Book relating to Bedfordshire.

3 James II. Appointment by the Corporation of Thomas Chaplin and John Pearle to demand £24 15s. for rent of land &c. in Saint Andrew's Holborn, leased to William Thompson.

1706 May 13th. Lease by Richard Whitton to the Corporation for 21 years, of the Chappell of Herne.

The Chapel of Herne is thus described—

"All that anntient building comonly called the "Chappell of Herne, late used by the said Town for one "of the Courts of Judicature for the Justices itinerent "there yearly at the times of the Assizes, abutting upon "the free schoole ground and house West and a passage "to the house late of one Thomas Margetts, East and "upon the ground of the free schoole against the South "and North."

There are numerous entries in the Minute Books of the Town Council of early dates relating to the Chapel of Herne; in some instances it is described as being bounded on the East by a lane to the River.

1715. Deed of Trust for the maintenance of an Organist.

1715 26th Sept The Council granted a Rent charge of £20 a year, chargeable upon the Tolls of Grain, to be paid to an Organist well skilled to perform and play upon a tuneable organ to be set up in St. Paul

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Church weekly upon Sundays, Prayer Days and holidays as in or. places.

Copy Faculty on altering St. Paul's Church. 1734 22nd Oct.

Acknowledgement under the Common Seal of the Warden and Scholars of St. Mary College, Winchester, of receipt from the Corporation of £109 15s. 3d. in satisfaction of costs of a suit in Chancery between the College and the Corporation. 1734.

Papers relating to the Manor of Elstow. 1738.

Re-conveyance from Mr. George Williams to the Corporation of the Hospital of Saint John. 1757 10th June.

Counterpart of Lease to John Cave of ground and purpresture on North side of Bridge for 33 years. 1771 Sept. 28th.

Agreement with John Wing for building Gaol. 1795 July 21st.

Copy of Inclosure Awards of the parishes of Saint Paul, Saint Peter, Saint Cuthbert and Saint Mary. 1797.

Lease of Messuage and plot of ground in Saint Mary to Isaac Elger for 99 years from Lady Day 1804. 1804 April 13th.

Lease and Counterpart of Lease to Trustees of Bedford Charity of premises in Saint Paul for 99 years from 6th April, 1804. 1804 May 21st.

Counterpart Lease of Thomas Swannell of messuage and premises in Saint Mary for 99 years. 1806 Novem. 13th.

Lease to Thomas Gadsby for 99 years of a piece of ground abutting North on Saint Paul's Square, East on a Messuage, Gardens and 1813 Sept. 29th.

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premises belonging to Lessee, South on the River, West on premises of Devereux Gadsby, at a nominal rent.

1817 August 23rd. Counterpart of Lease to Thomas Elger of land in Saint Mary, bounded on part of North by premises belonging to Hospital of Saint John, on remaining part of North by King's Ditch, on East and South and part of West by land belonging to the Hospital, on remaining part of West by the Turnpike Road, for 86 years at the rent of £4 4s.

1825 Feby. 14th. Surrender by the Trustees of Bedford Charity of Lease of premises in Saint Loyes.

1830 May 21st. Copy deed of Covenant with Mr. George Handscomb Miller for production of Deeds.

1832 October 17th. Faculties on altering Saint Paul's Church.

1851 May 13th. Lease to James Isitt of premises in Saint John's Street for 72 years, from 29th September 1850, at a yearly rent of £6 6s.

1861 Sept. 12th. Conveyance from Samuel Francis and John Baxter of land in Saint Cuthbert, (for improving line of Saint Cuthbert Street.)

1865 Decr. 12th. Copy Faculty on altering Saint Paul's Church.

1865 Decr. 23rd. Copy Faculty on altering Saint Paul's Church.

Office copy proceedings in a suit in the King's Bench respecting land in Maldon. (? date).

Freemen's Common.—Deeds and papers relating to the sale of part of the Freemen's Common to the Midland Railway Company in 1855—6.

Do. do. relating to the sale of another portion in 1858 and 1866.

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Deeds and papers relating to purchase of land from Halfhead and Hinton.

Papers relating to New Corn Exchange.

Plans of proposed Town Hall.

Papers relating to the Bathing Place.

Papers relating to the purchase of land of Mr. Nash and Mr. Elger.

Papers relating to sale of King's Mead.

Papers relating to sale of land in Ashburnham Road.

Mortgages, and papers relating to Mortgages to Messrs. Couchman, Macan, Higgins, McGrath, Davis.

Deeds and papers relating to purchase of the "Cross Keys" and adjoining property.

Corporation to Mr. Thomas Barnard—Confirming Deed relating to Bank Buildings.

Papers relating to Militia Storehouse, Prison, Shire Hall.

The under written statement shows what Estates had been alienated by the Corporation in the fifty years preceding 1833.

Description of Property.	To whom sold.	The sum received.
		£
Tenements at St. Lloyds, Bedford ..	The Justices of the County	30
4 Tenements at same	Trustees of the Bedford Charity	100
6 Shops in the Old Butcher Row	The Commissioners of Improvement of Bedford under the Act 43 Geo. 3d., C. 128	150
The Tolls of the late Bridge over the Ouze at Bedford.	The same under the Act of 50 Geo. 3d. C. 82	900
The late Guildhall & Butter Market in St. Paul's Bedford	Vested in the Commissioners by the Act of 43 G. 3 c. 128 p. 10.	....
The Toll of Grain	Abandoned by compromise	200
A Close of Arable Land at Knott's Corner, St. Peter's, Bedford, containing 14a. 2r. 20p.	John Foster, Esqr.	1050
A small piece of Garden Ground in Thames St., St. Cuthbert's, Bedford	Joseph Covington	40
A piece of Ground at St. Lloyd's, containing 1a. 1r. 26p.	George Handscombe Miller	800
A small piece of Ground in St. Cuthbert's, Bedford	John Henry Matthiason	32

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Under powers for that purpose vested in them, the undermentioned estates have since been sold by the Corporation:—

The Freemen's Common, sold to the Midland Railway Company.

Land on the Fenlake Road, sold to the Bedford and Cambridge Railway Company.

King's Mead, sold to the late Mr. Whitbread.

The Corporation have purchased the Cattle Market Place and land adjoining; and have reinvested a portion of the purchase money paid for the Freemen's Common in the purchase of land at Ravensden, for a Common for the Freemen.

Rights of Fishery.

The Records do not show that the Corporation claimed the exclusive right of fishery in the River.

The following order of the Council, made 20th October, 1653, appears to show that the Corporation had the right for some distance from the east of the bridge, and subsequent entries that will be noticed afford evidence of the right extending to the west of the bridge:

"That whereas Thomas Gibbs hath bought of ye "Trustees for sale of delinquent estates all ye royaltie "and fishing of ye ryver of Ouze from ye east side of "Bedford bridge to Yorke mill, with all islands thereunto "belonging, Mr. William Scott shall make clayme of "that part of ye said river belonging to ye Corporation "at ye Committee for Removing Obstructions, before ye "fifth day of November next ensuyng, according to an

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"Act of Parliament in such cases provided. And ye "said Mr. Scott is hereby authorized and desired to use "all necessarie meanes which shalbee conducing to the "mayntennce of ye towne's title therein."

The "Black Book" enacts that "no fysher shall use or occupie any castynge nette upon peyn of forfeiture for every tyme he cast the same in the ryver to the intent to take any fyshe."

In 1656 the Corporation granted a lease of "soe much of ye fishing of the ryver of Ouze which belonged to ye Corporation as lyes under the great bridge, and extends thence westward, and allsoe a lease of the holme lying in ye river, which is severed on ye west by a ditch from Spencely's holme."

The lessees were to "permitt any burgess of ye towne to fish with anything, yet this covenant of permission shall not prejudic ye towne's title to ye fishing who have ye title of severall fishing."

In 1698 the Corporation leased to John Day "soe much of the severall fishing in the River of Ouze in the said Towne of Bedford as is conteyned under the Great Bridge and thence next extending Westward into Trumpington Meadow conteyning the whole breadth of the River where it is divided into severall Channels as where it runneth into one streame and an Holme betwixt the streames adjoining to Spenceley's Holme together with the rush beds, flaggs, and osiers thereunto belonging lately in the possession of John Day deceased."

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Rights of Access to,
And other Rights connected with the River.

It might be supposed that the examination of the records would furnish the means of ascertaining the extent of the rights of the Corporation of access to the river; but the evidence obtainable is far from conclusive.

There is reason to believe that there was formerly a passage from Horne Lane to the river; for in 1639 the Corporation conveyed land in Horne Lane to one Mason, which is described to have abutted west upon a lane leading out of Horne Lane to the river.

In 1686 it was ordered that Mr. Faldo should have a lease of the Chappell of Herne, "ye Corporation to have use of the lane leading to the river."

It does not appear that anything was done to secure the use of the lane to the Corporation.

The fact that the Corporation granted a lease would appear to show that they were the owners of the Chapel; but in 1706, they agreed to take a lease of the Chapel.

It may be here mentioned in connection with the interest of the Corporation in the Chapel, that in 1657 it was ordered that "an edifice fit for the session at the public assizes of the county be erected against the east wall of the School House" at the Corporation cost.

In 1688 the Corporation granted a lease of a passage to the river between a messuage of Mr. Isaac and the White Lion. This passage was probably near the site of the Ship Inn on the south of St. Paul's Square.

A minute of the Council of the date 24th May, 1794, states that "Mr. Peregrine Nash had made application

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to take in a small piece of ground, the property of the Corporation, adjoining his garden.

In 1796 the Corporation directed that an estimate should be made of the expense of putting down a pile or fence for securing the watering brink between the great bridge and Mr. Nash's premises, from the annoyance of drawing our timber there.

From 1796 to 1807 a quit rent of sixpence "for a passage to the river" was payable by Mr. Perigrine Nash, but there is no mention of such a rent in any subsequent list of the Corporation Quit Rents.

In 1811 the Council resolved to grant to Mr. Alderman Green a lease of the island called German's Arbour for twenty-one years, at one shilling per annum.

In 1815 the Town Improvement Commissioners conveyed to the late Mr. Francis Green a piece of ground to the east of the bridge wall, of the mean width of about four feet. It would seem that Mr. Green was then allowed to take possession of the enclosed ground on the west of the bridge wall, because in 1833 the Commissioners resolved that Mr. Green be allowed the use and occupation of the ground he then occupied, adjoining the east side of the bridge, on payment of the yearly sum of 2s. 6d., and so long as he and the occupier of his coal yard in Boy and Oar Lane should allow the public to obtain water from the river, in manner mentioned in a report submitted to the Commissioners. Mr. Green being present in person signified his assent to this resolution.

The following passage in the report of the Commissioners appointed previously to the passing of

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the Municipal Corporations Act probably refers to one or other of the last-named passages to the river :—

"Among the ancient payments two are reserved for "sites of ancient passages to the river. Complaints "were made by several of the inhabitants that the "Corporation had suffered these passages to be stopped "up, and that much inconvenience was suffered from the "want of a proper access to the river. Among the "instances of inconvenience, it was stated that in case "of fire there would be considerable difficulty in "obtaining water. It appears that an alderman has "been allowed to occupy one of the sites where a "passage formerly existed. The alderman states that it "was necessary to stop up the passage in order to build "the new bridge. Another had been opened by the "Commissioners, and steps placed for the convenience "of the inhabitants; but a dispute has arisen with the "Duke of Bedford as to the right of property, and this "avenue has been closed for the present by the Duke's "steward."

"The practical inconvenience, however, does not "appear to be great. A way is open at all times of the "day through the premises of a member of the "Corporation."

It will be seen that two rents became payable by Mr. Green. The accounts of the Improvement Commissioners do not show that the rent of 2s. 6d. for the occupation of the ground was ever paid; but the accounts of the Borough Treasurer show that a rent of 2s. 6d. was paid for the island until 1869.

It is questionable whether the rent of 2s. 6d. was in

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fact paid as the rent for the ground on the side of the bridge, or whether it was paid for the island.

In September, 1813, the Corporation granted a lease for 99 years of a passage to the river, to the late Mr. Gadsby, at a nominal rent.

The lease comprises the land between Messrs. Sharman and Smail's offices and Mr. Pulley's house.

The Corporation had formerly some right of access, or control over the access, to the river in connection with the site of the old and of the present Post Office; but as by various dealings with the property in which the Corporation have concurred their rights have ceased, it is unnecessary further to refer to them.

Fairs and Markets.

As an incident to the Charters of Incorporation, the Corporation were probably entitled to hold fairs and markets, and to levy tolls. One of the Charters of Henry VI. expressly refers to the revenue of the Corporation arising from tolls, and a charter of Mary grants the right of holding fairs on certain days; but no evidence can be obtained, except of a comparatively recent date, of the right of the Corporation to any specific toll except for the tolls of grain, which were abolished by the Corporation in 1813.

In 1684, the Council resolved "That this new faire be kept," but there is nothing to show what is the meaning of this very vague expression.

Toll was payable for passage over the old bridge.

The first reference to the right of toll at cattle markets is in the year 1696, when the Council ordered certain

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railing round St. Peter's Green "for the improvement of the cattle faire held there and the Corporation Toll," but there is no mention of any toll to which the Corporation were entitled except the toll of "Showpenny" and the toll for "Stallage under the Mote Hall" until the year 1827, when the tolls claimed by the Corporation were entered upon their minutes.

It seems unnecessary to refer further to these tolls, because they are not now payable; the tolls of fairs and markets having been revised in pursuance of the Markets and Fairs Clause Act, 1847.

The Shire Hall.

In the year 1752 the site of the Shire Hall was purchased with money raised wholly or in part by voluntary subscription, and was conveyed to certain persons, some of whom were Justices of the County and the others Justices of the Town, upon Trust to permit buildings to be erected on the site, to be used for the Assizes, for the Quarter Sessions of the County, for the Quarter Sessions and Petty Sessions for the Town, and for such other purposes as the Trustees at their Quarter Sessions should direct. The deed empowers a surviving Trustee to appoint new Trustees, and requires that "the acting Justices for the County and also for the Town" be appointed Trustees, and that the Custos Rotulorum of the County for the time being and the heir male of the then John, Duke of Bedford, be of the number of the Trustees.

The Shire Hall was built soon after the year 1752. New Trustees have been appointed from time to time

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for the purposes of the Trust created by the Deed of 1752. The last appointment was made in 1877.

The undermentioned documents do not appear to be specially connected with any of the subjects of this Schedule previously referred to:—

Subsidy Rolls of Parliament. The Subsidy Rolls are of the time of Henry IV. and Henry V. Henry IV.

One of the Rolls states that a subsidy was granted in Parliament to Henry IV., in the fourth year of his reign; the names of the persons assessed appear on the rolls.

Award of Justices on question with Prior of Newnham. Henry VI.

Discharge of Claims upon a Chamberlain. 2 Edward IV.

Answers by the Mayor and Citizens of Oxford to questions by the Mayor of Bedford. 3 & 4 Mary.

Letter of Elizabeth. Elizabeth.

ELIZABETH R. By the Quene.

(*This is probably the Autograph of Queen Elizabeth.*)

"Trusty and welbeloved we grete you well. Whereas it is come to our knowledge that syns our late proclamacon for the decry of base moneys, there arriseth som difference amongst sundry or subiects being ignorante for the knowledge and decerninge of the base testons of 2¼d. from thother of 4½d., and that the rather because suche markes as were at the first added to the said basest testons be worne of, we to whome the weale and quyetnes of or people is moste tender, have by advise of our Counsell publisshed and notified dyvers good meanes as in suche a case could be devised for the informacon of our people in the knowledge of th one

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from th other and yet as we pceive the ignorant sorte be not so fully instructed as were convenyent and therfore we have ordered that in sundry places of our realme there should be certen trusty psons appointed not only to informe or people herein but also to stampe the saide testons with severall stampes or prints and considering that towne is populouse and that many of or subiects resorte thither at sundry tymes we having confydence of yor discretion do ordeyne that uppon the receipte of thies or lres you shall ymedyatly assemble yor brethren together and if there be any gentleman dwelling in that towne or wthin one myle of the towne, being a Justice of Peace in any parte thereaboute you shall also send for hym, and in yor hall or tolvooth or other common-place of yor assembles by what name soever it be called in the open presence of them all ye shall read this lre and then unseale a bag wch this messenger shall deliver unto you conteyning in it two stamping yrons and a rounde plate of stele the one of the yrons conteyning the printe of a greyhounde th other a porteculles and being so in open place considered, ye shall by th assent of yor brethern and such Justyce of peace as ye shall thereto call if any be nighe hande or by the more parte of them, chose to yorself foure more of the wisest and metest parsons of that towne wherof the Justyce of Peace to be one to sytt wth you for th'execucon of the contents following ye wth. the four psons chosen shall forthewth sytt in the saide open place or at the Market Crosse calling to you some goldesmythe of the beste knowledge that ye can get or som other pson having best knowledge in the matter of moneys and shal be there redy to iudge and decerne

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of al manner of testons that any our subiects shall bringe unto you wch be of the value of 2¼d. and wch. of 4½d. and ye shall cause the teston of 2¼d. to be striken wth. the yron having the greyhounde uppon that pte of the teston wheruppon the King's face is behynd the hed over the shulder and th other teston of 4½d. ye shall stryke wth. th other yron having the portcullese before the face and so with spede re-delyver the saide moneys unto the sayde psons that dyd present them unto you and you shall take good regard that in no wise ye stampe any teston valued at 2¼d. with the stamp of the portculles you shall also by authoritye hereof swere the goldesmythe to iudge and decerne truly betwixte th' one moneys and th' other to th uttermost of his knowledge and for the contynuance of yor sytting at one time or for yor dayes of syttinge we do reserve that to yor discretion as ye shall see cause geven unto you by confluence of or people to you wth their moneys so as you neither sytt before nyne of the clocke in the fornone nor after thre at afternone neither uppon any hollydays neither that fewer of you sitt at one tyme than foure besyde the goldesmythe if any such can be had and at every time when you shall sytt and have doon you shall before you depte in open presence put upp the yrons into the bag and cause the same to be sealed upp with waxe and wth the seale of one of yor assistants and yorself either to keep the said yrons untyll the next sitting or ells to cause them to be safely locked upp in yor comon chest where your Charters or suche lyke do remayne in such sorte as the same yrons be nowise used nor seen but in th open place when you shal be assembled

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together for this purpose after one moneth passed if you see no more nede of the use hereof you shall cause them to be sealed upp and sent to our Treasourer of or. mynte by some trusty pson and so not doubtinge but you wyll have regarde to our good meaninge we pray you to use such expedicon and discrecon herein as to suche a case dothe apperteyne and to bestowe your labours herein to the quietinge of our people without taking anything for the same and before one moneth shall passe we truste to cause a quantytie of fyne moneys to be sente into those ptes for the use and comforte of our subiects. Geven under or. signet at or. house of Hampton courte the XVIth of October the seconde yere of or. reigne.

1556. June. Confirmation of Town Arms and Corporation Arms by Clarenceau, King at Arms, in the words following:—

"These arms here depicted ar of ancientlie belonginge and apperteyninge to the Towne and Boroughe of Bedforde tyme out of mynde."

"These Armes here depicted an belonginge and "apperteynynge to the Mayor, Bayllyffs, Burgesses and "Commonaltie of the Towne and Boroughe of Bedforde "which Armes, I, Clarenceaux King of Arms of the "Southe Easte & Weaste Parties of Englande have not "onlie ratefied and confirmed the same unto the Mayor, "Bayllyffs, Burgesses, & Commonaltie of the Towne and "Boroughe of Bedforde but also recorded the same in "the registers of my vysytacon now made within the "Countie of Bedd. And at this psent vysytacon was "Robert Paradyne, mayor, John Castroigne,

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"recorder, Henrye Albanye, Thomas Leight. Willm. "Bull, Rycharde Laurence, Humfrey Lawrence, Henrye "Lawrence, Symonde Beckett, and Alexander Hunte "associate to the saide Mayor who have byn Mayors, "Edward Smythe and Robert Goodalle, Bayliffs, George "Huxley and William Radde, Chamberleynes. In "wytness whereof I have hereunto subscrybed my name "the seventhe of June, 1566."

The Confirmation of the Town Arms and of the Corporation Arms is on one sheet, and is endorsed in the following words—

"Entered in the visitation of Bedford, made Ao dni 1634."

GEO. OWEN YORKE,
Hen. Lily. Rouge-Rose."

Indenture of Receipt of Standard Weights and Measures. 44 Elizabeth.

Manuscripts, part dated 1618, apparently relating to religious questions, and notes. 1618.

Deed for 13 Freemen to be of the Common Council. 8 James I.

Exemplification of Verdict at an Assize, 22 James, upon an indictment about the Toll Grain. 22 James.

Certificate that Sir Rowland Alston Baronet was a Burgess. Charles I.

20th August. Adjudication in reference to certain persons named by the Leet, and other persons as to the office of Chamberlain. 24 Charles I.

Address to the King after the Battle of Preston.

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Address against the Claims of the Pretender.

Other Addresses.

Petition of certain freemen of the well affected of the Town of Bedford against the present government of those that assume to govern in that Town as the persons incorporated presented unto this Committee unto whom the petition of the Town of Bedford was by order of Parliament of the 28th of November 1649 referred; and brief on the hearing of the petition.

5 William and Mary. A Certificate by Thomas Battison, Mayor, of the grant of rights by the Charter of Richard I.

8 William III A similar Certificate.

19 William and Mary. Certificate of Mayor that John Eston, Knight was a Burgess of the Borough.

1706. April 10th. A Certificate of a person holding land of the Honor of Clare and Gloucester part of the Duchy of Gloucester and being therefore entitled to exemption from all toll.

1725. Agreement to prosecute Foreigners for setting up Trades &c.

1726 Case respecting Foreigners trading in Bedford.

1780. December 16 Security to Sir Thomas Barnard of Loan of £950.

1792. December 12 Resolutions of a Meeting of the Inhabitants expressing their attachment to the Government and the House of Brunswick. That no License be renewed to any Inn-keeper who has permitted a seditious meeting of disaffected persons to be held.

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That treasonable Pamphlets and seditious papers be suppressed.

Writ of Mandamus for the election of Mayor, Chamberlains and Bailiffs. 6 William IV.

Papers relating to Borough Rate Basis. 1853.

Documents nearly illegible, without seal, and probably of no value.

Apparently Pleas in an action—(No date.)

Copy letter from a Recorder in reply to charge against him of endeavouring to remove Assizes and Sessions to Ampthill (no date or signature).

Series of Chamberlains Accounts and Borough Treasurer's Accounts.

Oaths and Declarations of Office.

Borough Registers, Burgess Lists and Ward Lists.

Freemens Rolls and Lists.

Deeds relating to several Charities of which the Corporation were trustees previously to the passing of the Act 5 & 6 Wm. 4. c. 76.

Miscellaneous Deeds.

Proceedings by indictment against the Midland Railway Company for stopping Ampthill Road.

Rivers Pollution Commission.

Papers relating to Endowed Schools and Elementary Education.

Papers relating to election by Council of six Governors of Harpur's Charity 1873 and 1877.

Papers relating to Weights and Measures.

Bonds for the performance of various offices.

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Appendix No. 1.

The figures in the margin refer to the dates of the commencement of the books in which the acts of the Council are recorded, or to the date of the acts.

A.

Allhallows Green. Conveyance to Dr. Newton of premises on Allhallows Green on payment of £50. — 1745. Oct. 9.

Apprentice. Freedom Apprentices seven years service qualification for freedom. — 1698. p. 54.

Improper apprenticeship. — 1723. Jan. 10.

Question of disinfranchisement of Freemen for taking apprentices improperly. — 1745. April 1.

Assizes House. Order to erect Fabricke fit for the Session at the Public Assizes of the County against the East wall of the School House. — 1659. p. 140.

John Scott to have use of Chapel of Hern and Assize House when not required for public purposes. — 1698. p. 74.

Aylesbury, Earl of. Thanks of Corporation to the Earl of Aylesbury "for vouchsafing his presence at Mr. Mayor's dinner at the Town Sessions and that he would intercede with His Majesty for the Assizes to be here." — 1683. p. 231.

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B.

Bailiffs and Chamberlains. Order to search what new erected inclosures there were upon the Corporation waste. 1664. p. 139.

Bailiff. Repeal of Act of Council of 1665 that no person once proposed for Mayor should afterwards be proposed for Bailiff. 1664. p. 223.

Refusal to admit Bailiff on his refusing to pay for dinner. 1659. p. 158.

Bailiff lots. 1795. Feb. 5.

Kings Mead. 1821. p. 164.

Bailiffs Allotment near Freemen's Common. 1804. p. 252.

Bailiffs land. 1796. p. 40.

Bank side. Lease of Messuage. 1689. p. 78.

Battison's ford. Public wharf. Schedule of Tolls. 1821. p. 83.

Order for making Public Wharf. 1828. Mar. 18.

Committee report 2d. per ton for goods landed at the wharf. (It does not appear that this Report was adopted.) 1829. July 28.

Freemen allowed the free use of the wharf. 1830. Oct. 26.

Proposal of Messrs. Halfhead and Trapp to erect a bridge. Report of Committee that Messrs. Halfhead and Trapp had undertaken not to erect a bridge. 1833. p. 247.

Beadle. Office of Crier and Beadle. 1804. p. 203.

Bedell. Office of Bedell of Beggars established. 1647. p. 5.

Bedford Charity. Consent of Corporation to Bill in Parliament for management of the Estates of the Bedford Charity. 1826. Ap. 22.

Bedford, Earl of.—"That the thanks of the Corporation be given to The Earle of Bedford, 1664. p. 207.

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for his assistance towards building a new Market House."

Bedford Row. Cancelling agreement for taking house in Bedford Row. 1747. p. 174.

Bolingbroke, Earl. Order to give thanks to the Earl of Bolingbroke the Recorder for his "past kindness to the Corporation and for his assistance towards building a new market house." 1664. p. 207.

Books &c. Receipt for books &c. to be given. 1790. May 6.

Borough. Boundaries of. 1722. Nov. 23.

Boundary. Inspection of boundary of Common in dispute. 1729. Jan. 22.

Bridge. Committee for overseeing works of rebuilding Prison on Bridge. 1675. p. 117.

Repair of Prison on Bridge. 1661. p. 182.

Repair of Great Bridge. 1665. p. 20.

For recovery of moneys belonging to the Great Bridge. 1647. p. 6.

Lease of passage Bridge foot. 1688. p. 31.

Stopping Waggons &c. to enforce toll at Bridge. 1698. p. 95.

Lease of per-presture at North end of Bridge foot. 1698. p. 127.

Lease of traverse of Great Bridge. 1732. p. 37.

Mr. Cawne to set down posts even with Mr. Battisons (qr. Batts' Ford) to maintain foot-bridge against his house. 1747. p. 50.

Buildings on Bridge to be taken down. 1747. p. 204.

New Gaol to be build on Bridge. 1769. p. 36.

P. Nash may take down 2 feet from wall of Bridge leading to watering place for convenience of better turn into his yard. 1792. Mar. 27.

Horse brink. 1792. May 18.

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Duke of Bedford, leave to make any alterations to old Bridge. 1795. Aug. 11.

Watering brink between Gt. Bridge and Mr. Nash's property in St. Mary's. 1796. June 20.

Bridge House. "Whereas the house or edifyce called ye bridge-house in this Towne and ye dwelling house thereto adjoining for a long time were annexed to the Bayliffwicke of this Towne and used for ye comon prison there and for ye habitacon of one of ye Sergeants at Mace to ye Bayliffs And whereas Richard Mabbott havying mrried ye widow of Willm. Wendover deceased late one of ye said Sergeants, at Mace (who at his death dwelt in ye said dwellinghouse) hath by colour thereof obtained ye possession of ye same houses and contynued his said possession therein for some yeares past and still wtholudeth ye same from ye Bayliffs and their Sergeants by means whereof and for want of a convenient prison divs prison's (as well felons as others) have escaped to ye great hyndrance of publicke justyce and detrymont of ye said Bayliffs (who have often been fyned and sued by reason of such escapes) It ys ordayned and established that ye said houses shall agayne be annexed to ye said Baylywicke and so contynue and that ye said Richard Mabbott shall before our ladie day now next ensuyng enter into contract wth ye Bayliffs of this Towne for his ye said Richards safe guardyng until 1647. p. 8.

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Michas now next comyng all prison's ymprisoned or wch shalbee ymprisoned in ye said bridge-house and gyve unto ye said bayliffs sufficyent suritie and caution with surities in that behalf at ye discrecon of the same bayliffs or els leave his possession thereof. And yt is further ordayned that from time to time from and after ye said feast of Michas now next coming the same dwelling-house shalbee inhabited by one of ye Sergeants at Mace to ye said Bayliffs."

For authorizing an entry into the bridge-house. 1647. p. 22.

Bridewell. Salary Keeper of Bridewell. 1722. July 9.

Payments to Keeper of Bridewell. 1747. p. 210.

Bucket keepers. 1747. p. 36.

Burgess. "Whereas some doubt hath bin raysed whether such as went under ye name of Freemen be in ye qualitye of Burgesses without taking the oath of Burgesse Therefore for clearing the said doubt It is agreed that such psons wh went under ye name or notion of freemen may have the oath of Burgesse administered unto them." 1647. p. 47.

Distinction between Burgesses and Freemen. 1661. p. 189.

Fees admission Burgesses and Freemen. 1734. July 11.

(Extract, Court Leet, 5 April, 24 Car. 2.) "Every Burgess and Freeman being an Inhabitant shall have right of comon for an horse and a cow, or for want of an horse two cowes, and for want of a cow two horses, and that no Burgesse or Freeman shall sell or lett his part of comon."

Burgess Lots. 1686. p. 268.

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Burgessdom. Presentation at Court Baron. 1698. p. 139.
The Duke of Bedford, the Right Honble. Lord St. John offered the Burgessdom. 1731. Oct. 5.
Butter Market. Order for removal of Butter Market. 1823. Aug, 26.
Bye-Laws. Constitutions and Bye-Laws for regulating the Town Borough and Corporation made at Comon Councell. 1698. p. 102.
Confirmation of Bye-Laws by Lord Mansfield. 1747. p. 226.

C.

Chamberlain. Two persons to bear the office jointly instead of one person. 1647. p. 48.
Repealing Act relation to payment of XXd. 1647. p. 48.
Ex-chamberlains Accounts. 1789. Dec. 21.
Not to contract or pay a sum exceeding 40s. 1795. Dec. 21.
Chamber Stock. Money paid into Chamber stock for Burgesses and Freemen not to be applied towards paying of £500 and interest due on Mortgage to Mr. Wm. Harris. 1747. p. 24.
Rents of land appropriated by Bailiffs to go to Town Stock. 1796. p. 124.
Rents of land appropriated by Bailiffs to go to Town Stock, rescinded. 1796. p. 141.
Chappell and Guildhall. Order for alterations for convenience of Judges of Assize. 1664. p. 117.
Chapell of Herne. Lease. 1664. p. 273.
Enlarging Justices Benches. 1664. p. 119.
Lessee to House to be used by Justice of Assize public and other Meeting of County. 1665. p. 15.
Lease of. Corporation to have use of lane to River. 1686. p. 274.

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John Scott to have use of Chapel of Hern and Assize House when not required for public purposes. Repairing it and also Nisi Prius Bench. 1698. p. 74.

Chapel of Hern to be tiled.

Chapel of Herne. Lease of. 1698. p. 77. 1698. p. 83.

Charitable uses. Protestation of Council against application of money given for charitable uses to any other purpose. 1729. April. 1664. p. 276.

Charities. Reports on Charities.

Charity Estates. Mr. Thomas Lewis appointed to receive proposals for lease of any part of Charity Estate and transmit to Corporation. 1804. p. 14. 1747. p. 165.

Mr. Lewis to treat with best bidders and have a power to let Bedford Row and any other part of the Estate as he shall receive directions from us. 1747. p. 168.

Advertising Charity Estate Leases. 1747. p. 171.

Members of Corporation may attend letting of Charity Estates. (See also "St. Andrew, Holborn.") 1747. p. 171.

Charter. Tax of £100 to be raised towards expense of renewing charter. 1664. p. 245.

Tax for renewal of Town Charter. 1663. p. 231.

"Whereas ye Corporacon have receaved a comannd from ye Comittee of Parliament touching Corporacons to attend them wth ye Chr of their incorporacon And therupon the Chr of King James wch a copie of it is in Mr. Maires hands And it is doubted that to pt with ye Chr under Seale out of ye 1647. p. 75.

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Corporacons custodie may bee hazardous for feare of being embezzled It is ordered that (upon information from ye Sollicitor that shalbee employed to attend ye Comee about ye busines how ye Comittee is inclinable, to wit, whether to accept of onlie a coppie of ye Chr or insist upon having ye Chr brought in) Mr. Maior may accordingly gyve direccon as ye case shall fall out and the new Charter of Queen Marie of some pticular things shalbee taken out of ye evidence house and sent or els a coppie of it according as need shall require."

Mayor and Town Clerk may take and carry Corporation Charter to London with any other papers for defence of Mayor. 1769. p. 93.

Chequers Inn. Windows from Chequers. 1821.p.p.28.95

2s. 6d. yearly to be paid for windows in Chequers Public House looking into pound, lately a Butter Market. 1824. p. 28.

Permission to Messrs. Pym to make windows on South side of Chequers on payment of 2s. 6d. yearly. 1828. p. 83.

Common Council. Constitution of and order to "note such as appe without a decent garbe and habite, viz. each Alderman and other Burges in his gowne and each freeman or comoner in his gowne or cloake." (Repealed by order of 3rd January, 1652, which enacts that only Aldermen and Bayliffs shall appear in a "gowne or cloake.") 1647. p. 15.

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Common Close. Lease of. 1796. p. 15.

Common Hall. Freeman's Right of Common Hall. 1690. Apr. 14.

Lease to William Wyffin "to keep with pitching "Common Hall and Ways from Gaole Corner "to Towne Hall and so much as belong to the "Towne to repaire before the Castle Lane and "the Great Bridge." 1698. p. 74.

Common Rights. Suspension of Common Rights under Inclosure. 1795. Sep. 11.

Commons. Inspection of boundary of Common in dispute. 1729. Jan. 22.

Encroachments on Commons. Arbitration and Resolutions. 1795. Nov. 2.

Conduit Field. Lease of land Windmill Field, Conduit Field. 1688. p. 3.

Lease of 2 acres. 1698. p. 71.

Leases of 2 parcels of land in Conduit and Windmill fields. 1747. p. 171.

Constitutions and Bye-Laws, for regulating the Town, Borough and Corporation made at "Comon Councell." 1698. p. 102.

Corn Toll. Claim to corn toll ceased on payment of £200. 1804. p. 170.

Coronation. £15 to be spent at Coronation (see "King.") 1698. p. 127.

Corporation Allotment. Fencing and quicking to Corporation Allotment. 1796. Feb. 5.

Corporation property. Leases by Auction of property allotted upon the Bedford Inclosures to the Corporation. 1796. Feb. 5.

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Council. "That no man of the Council shall disclose "his Fellows counsel and that Door-keeper do "not disclose debates of Council or suffer any "one to listen during sitting of the Council. 1664. p. 245.

In the Intervals of Councils, Mr. Mayor to demand rents and claim lands in the name of the Corporation and see whether such lands have been set apart for the use of the Great Bridge of the Town or otherwise do or shall belong to the Town Chamber. 1647. p. 55.

Repealing an Act relating to appearance in gowns at the Common Council. 1647. p. 71.

"It is ordered that no guift, prsent, letter, petiton "or addresse shalbee made or gyven out of ye "towne chamber or in ye Corporacons name "wthout ye consent of ye Comon Councell "Provided and it is agreed that for a present to "ye Judge of Assize or upon anie soddaine "arizing occasion wch will not pmit ye stay for "calling a Councell Mr. Maior for ye time being "wth ye assent of two or more of ye Aldermen "by their warrant signed may comand ye "Chamblins to make disbursmt. or may cause "anie such petition letter or addresse as "aforesaid to bee made." 1647. p. 80.

Town Clerk disclosing acts of Council. 1698. p. 69.

Council Chamber.—(see "Shire Hall &c.")

Meetings of Council in Council Chamber adjoining Guildhall. 1769. p. 2.

Court Baron of Mayor &c., right of Burgess. 1698. p. 67.

Burgessdom. Presentation at Court Baron. 1698. p. 139.

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Appointment of Steward of Leet and Baron and other Courts. 1804. p. 213.

Court of Pleas. Order that the Mayor do by all ways and means inform himself of the whole matter of proceeding in the Borough Court of Pleas. 1664. p. 217.

Steward of Court of Pleas. 1792. May 18.

Inhabitants to appear in gown or cloak. 1647. p. 15.

Proposal to revive Court of Pleas. 1821. p. 214.

Deputation to Council requesting that the Court might be revived. 1832. p. 204.

Opinion of Council that Court should not be revived.

Crier. Office of Crier and Beadle. 1804. p. 203.

Cross Keys. Lease of Tenement near Cross Keys. 1769. p. 6.

Culloden, Battle. Order to expend 30s. towards the expenses on the thanksgiving day for the glorious and complete victory obtained over the rebels by His Majesty's forces at Culloden. 1746. Oct. 8.

D.

Dinner. Costs of Audit-dinner. 1678. p. 159.

Disfranchisement and Disburgessment. 1695. p. 39.

Dog and Duck Lane. Lease of ground. 1769. p. 42.

Duck Lane. Lease of. 1682. p. 210.

Lease of houses abutting West. 1698. p. 56.

Lease of Messuage abutting on Duck Lane. 1698. p. 78.

Duck Mill Holm Bank. Repair of breach. 1665. p. 93.

E.

Elections. Order for regulating the manner of taking the Poll at public elections for Mayor, Bailiffs and Chamberlains. 1664. p. 143.

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Act for maintaining the votes and privileges of Burgesses and Freemen, preventing disturbances and fining disturbers at Elections. 1664. p. 194.

For regulating the Elections to the Mayoralty and Bailywick. 1647. p. 17.

Expenses in going to London to wait on the Duke of Bedford to settle the point for future Elections. 1747. p. 212.

Engines. Building Engine House, purchasing and care of Engines. 1732. p. 43.

England and Scotland. Address on Union. 1698. p. 89.

Evidence House. To be put in order. 1698. p. 100.

Repair of Evidence House, Papers placed in Vestry of St. Paul's with consent of Rev. Mr. Hunt during time the Evidence House shall be repairing. 1734. p. 19.

S. Richards on power to take books out of Evidence House. 1741. Feb. 2.

Mr. De Gregory's bill paid for sorting and arranging papers and other documents in Evidence House, 11 guineas. 1794. Sep. 17.

Mr. Donald, 4 guineas for attendance on same occasion. 1794. Sep. 17.

Repair of Evidence House. 1821. p. 115.

Repair of Evidence House. Records removed to Shire Hall. 1821. p. 229.

Restoration of Records to Evidence House. 1821. p. 236.

Attendance at Evidence House. 1821. p. 288.

Repair of. Removal of Records to Shire Hall. 1832. Sep. 29.

Excise. Letters to Members of Parliament to oppose all new Excise or any extension of the Excise Laws. 1732. p. 41.

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Thanks to M.P.s for opposing Excise Bill. 1732. p. 44.

F.

Faire in Fryar's Close. "It is ordered that Mr. Sergt. Levins shall be advised with about the keeping the faire in the Fryar's Close and removing the same from the usuall place where it ought to be kept contrary to the Mayor's proclamacon in that behalf." 1695. p. 45.

Fairs and Markets. Place for April Fair in pursuance of Improvement Act. 1796. p. 134.

Schedule, Fairs and Markets. 1828. p. 83.

Order for contribution towards "new erecting railes round St. Peter's Green in the place where the faire for catle there is usually kept." 1695. p. 45.

Lease of Tolls of Fairs and Markets. 1804. p. 249.

Fishing. Lease of "so much of fishing as was in John Crofte and Robert Welbornes tenne with the holm and rush beds." 1664. p. 131.

Case with respect to claim of Right of Fishery in the Ouse by St. Mary's Mead and Trumpington Meadow, claimed by Mr. Garnault owner of Cauldwell Estate. 1769. p. 15.

Fish Ponds. Lease of ground in St. Cuthbert leading to fish ponds. 1680. p. 183.

Flood. Report by Town Clerk that in the great flood of the first of November last when the waters of the river rose fifteen inches higher than in any former flood within the memory of the oldest inhabitant of the Town; the floor of all the lower rooms of the Shire Hall was 6 inches under water; and that the Corporation 1823. p. 27.

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chest was then standing on the floor of the Prisoners' room and consequently in the water during the flood and that many documents were much injured and defaced.

Foreigners and Strangers. "Prohibited from using publicly in Towne any art, craft, trade, mystery or manual occupation and from selling any wares or merchandize within the Town;" the prohibition not to extend to selling flesh in open market. 1647. p. 4.

For prohibiting foreign Porters. 1686. p. 279.

Order to sue Foreigners for setting up trade. 1698. p. 146.

Franklin, Sir William, Knight. "That the thanks of the Corporation be given to Sir William Franklin, Knight, for his assistance towards building a new Market House." 1664. p. 207.

Freedom. "Whereas Willm. Faldo th'elder and Willm. Faldo ye younger (Freemen of this Towne) have byn warned to appe upon Monday ye XXIVth of this instant Aprill before ye hoble comittee of Indemnitye authorized by Parliament by vtue of an order there made upon ye pticon of Samuell Gibbes ye younger in wch peticon ye said peticoer hath suggested to ye said Comittee That hee having served as an appntice in london and byn actuallie employed for ye Parliament his tyme being expired he hath settled himself in this Towne of Bedford whereof his father is a freemen Yett by reason of his service for ye State he is molested and int'rupted in the exercise of his trade by ye said Willm. Faldo and Willm. Faldo for that he 1647. p. 9.

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hath not served an Appntiship hee having served as a Souldier as aforesaid Now forasmuch as ye matter of ye peticon exhibited to ye Commee toucheth ye libtyes and freedome of ye Corporacon of this Towne whereto ye aforesaid peticoner (being onlie ye younger sonne of a freeman) is a foreynor not inheritable either by ye custome and usage of this Corporacon or ye law of ye land It is agreed and ordayned that Mr. Maior shall by certificate under ye Towne seale in ye name of ye Corporacion certifye unto ye said Comittee ye true case of their said peticoner (Samuell Gibbes) as it relateth to ye Corporacon And it is further ordered That th'expence and cost of ye said certificate to ye Comittee and ye defence of ye Town right ocasioned by ye fore mencoed complaynt of ye said Samuel Gibbes shall be borne and defrayed out of ye Towne chamber."

Freemen. Apprentice Freeman. Thos. Hawes' Will. 1688. p. 26.
Fees, admission, Burgesses and Freemen. 1734. July 11.
Large number of Freemen admitted. 1747. p. 232.
Resolution to admit Freemen on same terms as if admitted at Court Leet. 1792. May 18.
No honorary Freemen to be admitted but upon payment of 5 guineas and the usual fees. 1794. Sep. 6.
Non-resident Freeman putting cattle on commons or meadows. 1794. Nov. 29.
Freemen's Common. Expense of Suit. 1688. p. 24. 1691. p. 20.

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Land belonging to Burgesses and Freemen to be opened on the 12th May for reception of one head of cattle belonging to each resident Burgess or Freeman (7s. payment). 1796. Ap. 28.

Mayor's Sergeant to be collector, £2 2s. 0d. per annum.

Trustees Freemen's Common. 1796. p. 76. 1804.pp44.105

G.

Gaol. New Gaol to be built on Bridge. 1769. p. 36.

Gaol to be built in St. Loyes. 1769. p. 37.

Application to Duke of Bedford for further subscription towards erecting new Gaol. 1795. Apl. 8.

Committee to survey a proper place for new Town Gaol.

Power of Magistrates of Borough in levying rate for expense of erecting new Town Gaol. 1795. May 28.

Contract with Mr. Alderman Wing for new Town Gaol. 1795. May 28.

Corporation of Leicester to provide furniture and fixtures for Town Gaol. 1796. Feb. 5.

Gaol Lane. Messuage, Gaol Lane. 1688 p. 36.

Lease of Houses in St. Paul, abutting on Gaol Lane and Duck Lane. 1698 p. 55.

Lease of Messuage. 1698.p.p.78.79

House and premises to be let. 1795. July 10.

Lease of house and premises. 1795. Aug. 21.

Lease of Messuage and Cooper's shop, Gaol Lane. 1796. p. 20.

Garb. Repealing an Act of Council relating to the garb to be worn by Members of the Council. 1647. p. 35.

Repealing an Act relating to appearance in gowns at the Common Council. 1647. p. 71.

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German's Harbour. Claim of Duke of Bedford to German's Harbour, &c. 1795. July 10.

Lease of Island called German's Harbour, 1s. rent. 1804. p. 129.

Girdler's Lane. Lease of. 1677. p. 144.

Lease of Messuage in Girdler's Lane near Fish-Market. 1697. p. 49.

Lease of part of Messuage. 1698. p. 95.

Grammar School. Master and Usher, neglect of duty. Letters of request to the Warden and Fellows of the College of St. Marie of Winchester in Oxford requesting them to take a course concerning the premises. 1647. p. 8.

Guard Room. Coal and Candle for Soldiers in Guard Room. 1741. Nov. 10.

Guild Hall. Lease of Ground Room under Guild Hall with Messuage adjoining. 1698. p. 78.

Lease of Stallage in open place under Guild Hall. 1698. p. 79.

Meetings of Council in Council Chamber adjoining Guild Hall. 1769. p. 2.

H.

Hagable Rents. Order that the Chamberlain gather up the arrears of the Hagable rent and demand 10 years arrear. 1664. p. 231.

Correction of Hagable rent roll. 1664. p. 300.

Arrears of Hagable rent. 1664. p. 205.

Mortgage at Mayor's House to force payment of Hagable Rents. 1747. p. 49.

Harpur, Sir Wm., Estate. Order to give power to Mr. Mayor to take out of the Evidence House the writings relating to Sir Wm. Harpur's gift. 1664. p. 235.

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Willows on Sir Wm. Harpur's Estate belonging to Corpaton to be taken down. 1722. Nov. 23.

Survey of Estates in London given for benefit of Town by Sir Wm. Harpur. 1747. p. 108.

Scheme for application of same Estate. 1747. p. 109.

Protest against application of Harpur Charity Estate pending Bill. 1747. p. 180.

Hawes' Charity. Distribution of Hawes Charity. 1796. July 29.

Hermitage Willows. Lease of. 1698. p. 67. 1723. Sep. 26.

Lease of Hermitage Willows granted to Mr. Jas. Bailey, £1 1s. a year. 1747. p. 36.

£50 towards New Town Gaol. 1796. June 20.

Honeylove Pightle. 1821. p. 216.

Horne Lane. Lease of Messuage. 1695. p. 40.

Lease of Messuage in Horne Lane and Close and Honeylove Pightle. 1698. p. 83.

Lease to Robert Battison of a Water Lane called Bell's Lane, South Bridge, in Horne Lane down to the river. 1734. p. 62.

K.

Kent, Earl of. "That the thanks of the Corporation be given to the Earl of Kent for his assistance towards building a new market house." 1664. p. 207.

King. Address to the King declaring the "detestation of the Corporation of that most traitorous and most horrid of divers ill affected despate persons to compass the death of the King and the Duke of York." 1664. p. 218.

Members of Corporation to meet at Swan at 5 to drink King's health, each person not to exceed his "botle" to be paid at chamber charge. 1698. p.p. 138, 140.

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Mayor to spend what he thinks proper on Kings' Coronation Day. 1732. p. 48.

£7 2s. 0d., Expenses of drinking the King's health to be paid by Chamberlains. 1747. p. 145.

King's Counsel. Order for payment of expenses of attending before the King's Counsel on "allegations that were then alleged against the return." 1664. p. 178.

King's Mead. 18 Allotments in King's Mead to be measured. Bailiffs' allotment to be laid at East End. 1796. p. 76.

Bailiffs' lots, King's Mead. 1821. p. 164.

L.

Leases. All leases to be let by public auction in the Town Hall. 1794. Sep. 6.

Leete. Times of holding. 1647. p. 72.

Steward of Leete. 1792. May 18.

Proceedings at Leete. 1796. p. 95.

Appointment of Steward of Leet and Baron and other Courts. 1804. p. 213.

London Estates. Statement that last lease of an Estate in London granted by the benefaction of Sir Wm. Harpur was granted on fraudulent consideration. Order that no future lease should be granted. 1734. p. 4.

Inspection of. 1747. p. 39.

M.

Maces. Repairing. 1665. p. 8.

"It is agreed and ordayned that the Maces (both the Maiors and Bayliffs) being much worne and some of them broken shalbee forthwth repayred by new melting, casting and formyng And the

Maiors mace shalbee made two handfull longer than it now is at the nether end and bigger at ye boll And the Bayliffs maces each shalbee made and an handfull longer at the nether end Their bolls also shalbee made bigger The cost of all shall not exceed Twentie pounds And the procuring of the worke shalbee left to the Chamblins."

Manor of Bedford. Mayor, Bayliffs and Commonalty, Lords of the Manor of Bedford. 1698 p. 91.

Deputation of Game-Keeper. 1698. p. 91.

Market Cross. Mayor to discourse with persons concerned in building new Market Cross. 1664. p. 246.

Proposals for converting Market Cross for use of Judges. 1698. p. 80.

Use of Room over Market Cross. 1698. p. 94.

Market Place. Contributious towards building the Market Place. 1683. p. 229.

Market Place taken down. 1769. p. 55.

New Market Place to be erected on site whereon a shop now leased to Mr. Bradly now stands on his surrendering the same and upon that slip of ground now conditionally leased to Ben Palmer. 1769. p. 56.

Markets and Fairs. Regulations, Improvement Act. 1804. p.p. 125, 127.

Schedule. Fairs and Markets. 1828. p. 813.

Mayor. Any person proposed (as) Mayor by Mayors-house debarred to go into Council to vote for Mayor. 1664. p. 143.

" For the better support of ye succeeding Maiors of this Towne touching theire expences of dyett 1647. p. 12.

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at ye Court of Pleas of this Towne for themselves the Recorder and Alderman assistant and otherwise and to encourage the now Maior elect and others hereafter to bee elected to take that office upon them yt is ordayned and established that from and after ye feast of St. Michaell Th'archangellnext comyng in all accons now depending or hereafter to bee comenced in the said Court of Pleas the ptie for or on whose syde judgment shall passe or bee gyven in which judgment hee or they may or ought to have award of coste shall upon any such judgment entrying pay XIId. unto ye Maior."

For fining those which refuse to serve in the Mayoralty. 1647. p. 18.

Royal Warrant for Election of Mayor. 1688. p. 290.

Mayor elected 2nd or 3rd time to have £20 towards charge of his feast. 1689. p. 120.

Fine non-acceptance office of Mayor. 1821. p. 105.

Sixty pounds to be paid to Mayor for expense of Mayoralty. 1824. p. 40.

Fine of £150 on refusal to take the office of Mayor. 1828. p.p. 105, 125.

Mayor's Sergeant. Salary 5d. 1647. p. 71.

Members of Parliament. Expenses of presentation of address to the Right Hon. Lord St. John and Mr. Horne, M.P., of this Town. 1747. p. 153.

Mill Lane. Lease Mill Lane. Corporation Barn Cottage. 1688. Oct. 10.

Lease of Mill Lane Pillory Pump. 1698. p. 61.

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Lease of perpresture adjoining North side of Robin Hood abutting upon ditch next Mill Lane. 1698. p. 79.

Tenements let to Jas. Minns in Mill Lane, to be pulled down. 1698 p. 81.

Lease of Messuage at Corner of Mill Lane abutting West on High St. over against Market Cross, the Robin Hood South. 1698. p. 83.

Permission to pull down Houses standing in middle of Mill Lane. 1698. p. 87.

Lease of Shops, &c., Mill Lane Corner. 1747. p. 48.

Lease of land, tenant to fence. 1791. Aug. 19.

Minutes. To be read. 1796. p. 22.

Moote Hall. Lease of Stallage. 1661. p. 214.

Lease of Ground under Moote Hall. 1698. p. 63.

N.

Navigation. For sending the thanks of the Corporation to the Earl of Aylesbury for promoting the Navigation. 1664. p. 279.

New College. New College costs paid. 1732. p. 43.

New Fair. For Thomas Beckett and Widow Syms to have the toll of the new fair. 1664. p. 263.

Newnham. Lease of per-presture by Water Side going to Newnham. 1698. p. 88.

New River. For defending a suit in Chancery between the Corporation and the New River Company. 1664. p. 228.

For joining gratis in Commission with the New River men. 1664. p. 240.

Newton's Charity. Original memorandum of gift of Gabriel Newton. 1747. p. 124.

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Admissions to Charity Schools founded by Mr. Newton. 1747. p. 169.

Newton's Charity. 1796. Feb. 5. April 28.

Bond of Indemnity to Corporation of Leicester for £364 (Newton's Charity), 1796. Ap. 28.

Nuisances. Amerciaments for encroachments in Nuisances. 1698. p. 114.

O.

Offal Lane. Lease of messuage. 1665. p. 119.

Organist, St. Paul. If subscriptions sufficient to set up organ in St. Paul's by Michas day. Organist to be provided by Corporation. 1698. p.p. 117, 130.

John Barlow, Organist. 1729. Dec. 17.

John Barlow, Organist, turned out. 1734. p. 6.

Organist chosen. 1747. p. 71.

Appointment of an Organist, Salary £20. 1833. p. 261.

P.

Passage to River. "Mr. Gadsby to have a lease of slip of ground built on by him in the lane near his dwelling house being 77 feet in length from N. to S. and 1 ft. 3 inches wide at the North end thereof and one foot wide at the S. end thereof more or less and other encroachments made by him in the said passage, lease for 11 years. Rent 10s. a year and in case he should refuse such Lease, Corporation order chamberlains to have it taken down." Copy of this order delivered to him. 1769. p. 48.

Dimensions of disputed Ground built on by Mr. Gadsby near his house is as follows, viz.: "On the North from the River it consists of 77 1769. p. 48.

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feet ten inches in length. North End 13 inches of the wall if built upon the lane leading to the River and that at the S. end of the said Wall towards the River 11 inches of the said Wall is built upon the said lane and also near the North End of the said Wall a chimney and closet are built still further projecting over the said Lane which the said Thomas Gadsby has agreed to take down. Ordered that Mr. Gadsby take down wall and premises above-mentioned on or before 29th Sept. and copy of the order delivered to him—that the said Thomas Gadsby shall take down the wall 12 inches in breadth for the whole length of 77 feet 10 inches."

Lease of passage to River under the house of Mrs. Cane. 1796. p. 63.

Refusal of Mr. Nash to pay for passage to River.

Pecks Close. Lease of Cottage ground in street from Pecks Close to Newnhall. 1696. p. 46.

Pest House. Lease of. 1676. p. 134.

Lease of Pest House and 4 acres in Windmill Field. 1698. p. 62.

Pest House to be repaired and cavities of arable land filled up. 1698. p. 95.

Lease of Pest House and Pest House Close. 1727. Jan. 30.

Pest House to be let by auction. 1794. Sep. 17.

Mr. Thos. Field paid 5 guineas for relinquishing lease of Pest House Close. 1795. May 28.

Pest House Willow Trees to be sold. 1795. June 8.

Pickage and Stallage. Order empowering Chamberlains to sue and defend actions respecting pickage and stallage, (see also "Tolls.") 1664. p. 191.

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Pillory. Repair of. 1698. p. 99.

Poor. 10 guineas to Committee for relief of poor. 1795. Aug. 6.

Pound. To be removed from Clapham road. 1830. p. 139.

Prebend Field. Payment for defending privileges of Freemen and right of Common in Prebend field. 1747. p. 115.

Prebend Lands. Lease. 1647. p. 2.

Petition to Parliament for a grant of the Prebend land for charitable uses. 1647. p. 33.

Prison. Committee for overseeing works of rebuilding Prison on Bridge. 1664. p. 117.

Lease Stonehouse. 1688. p. 34.

Public Entertainments, &c. "It is agreed that none of the Corporation Money be expended at any public Entertainment, viz., Gunpowder Trazon, King's Coronation or Birthday, or any other Publick Day of Rejoiceing wtsoever unless it be by Act of Common Councell." 1725. Oct. 29.

Regulating Charges of Expenses on Public occasions. 1734. p. 21.

Act that every one shall pay their own reckoning on public Rejoicing days except the three Sergeants, the Beadle, Bellman and Hall-keeper. 1747. p. 16.

R.

Recorder. To have power to vote in Elections of Corporation. 1664. p. 267.

Letters Patent of grant of Recordership. 1698. p. 113.

Deputy Recorder, Salary and Arrears. 1732. p. 35.

Repealing of Acts empowering Recorder to vote. 1741. Ap. 24.

£5 5s. annually to be allowed to celebrate the Duke of Bedford's anniversary to the Recordership. 1795. July 29.

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Records. Damage to Records by Great Flood. 1821. p. 27.
Records removed to Shire Hall. 1821. p. 229.
Restoration of Records to Evidence House. 1821. p. 236.
Removal of records to Shire Hall, (see "Flood.") 1832. p. 228.
Reform Bill. Petition in favour. 1831. p. 174.
Resolution to be forwarded to Lord John Russell. 1831. p. 194.
Red Lion Fields. "For Mr. Mayor to nominate persons to require Mr. Thompson to set out the Town land boundaries near Red Lion Fields." 1664. p. 270.
Order for Inspection of Estates in Red Lion Fields. (See "St. Andrew, Holborn.") 1734. p. 26.
River. Thanks to Earl of Aylesbury for promoting the navigation. 1664. p. 279.
"For pursuing Townes claime to Roialty of ye River before ye committee of obstruccons." 1653. p. 91.
Passage to River. 1694. p. 38.
Demand of 2s. for passage between White Lyon and Ship, leading to River. 1695. p. 41.
Suit for taking in ground from River belonging to Lords of the Town and laying it to Close called Water Close. 1697. p. 49.
Lease of passage to River. 1769. p.p. 6, 36.
Notice given to Mr. Gadsby to take down the Gates of the passage to River, (see "Passage to River.") 1769. p. 41.
River-side. Agreed that John Wootton may have piece of ground by River-side 3s. per ann. 1747. p. 40.
Robin Hood. Lease of perpresture adjoining North side of Robin Hood abutting upon ditch next Mill Lane. 1698. p. 79.
Lease of Shop next Robin Hood. 1698. p. 145.

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Russell, Lord. "That the thanks of the Corporation be given to Lord Russell for his assistance towards building a new market house." 1664. p. 207.

Russell, Lord John. Candidate for Borough. Letter to Mayor.

"Half Moon Street, June 26, 1830.

"Sir,

"My brother William, who has so long had "the honor of representing the Town of "Bedford, is engaged by Military Service at "such a distance from home that he finds it "impossible to perform adequately the duties "of a Member of Parliament. He will accordingly retire whenever a dissolution takes place.

* * * * *

"I propose to offer myself as a candidate "to supply his place at the next Election."

"It is my anxious hope and ambition to "receive that support from the Corporation "which has hitherto been so liberally given "to my brother."

"I request you will have the goodness to "communicate my intentions to the body over "which you preside and remain,

Your most faithfull Servant,

J. RUSSELL."

S.

Salaries, &c. Schools Charities. 1690. p. 17.

School. Order that Mr. Mayor take the Grant of King Edward concerning the free-schools to Oxford to inform the Master and Warden of 1664. p.p. 231, 277.

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New College concerning their power of appointing a School master.

Schools. Master of free schools. 1665. p. 4.

Temporary addition to School Master's and Usher's Salary. 1665 p. 33.

Reference of differences betwixt Master of free school and towns men. 1665 p. 44.

Declaration of rates at which Town children to be taught in free school. 1665. p. 47.

Declaration by Master of Free School rate of teaching Town children. 1665. p. 60.

Grant from Edward VI. concerning free school. 1683. p. 231.

Repair of free school. 1698. p. 71.

Repairs of free school. 1698. p. 86.

"It is agreed and enacted that a letter be wrote to ye Warden of New College in Oxford to know what Usher they have legally appointed to be Usher of ye Free School since the Resignation of Mr. Benjamin Rogers And that Mr. Prianly be tendered all the money in arrear due to him." 1726. Mar. 31.

Master of Free School allowed Salary during the vacancy of an Usher. 1734. p. 2.

School House. Order to erect Fabricke fit for the Sessions at the Public Assizes of the County against the East Wall of the School House. 1656. p. 140.

Lease of School House Chappell and Lane, Rent 10s. Lessee to make no fire in Building. To cleanse against Judges coming to sit, and leave it open on any other public occasion. To open lane to fetch water upon "sodein" occasion or necessity. 1665. p. 109.

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Repair of free School House. 1682. p. 206.
An edifice adjoining Free School may be sold. 1698. p. 80.
Scotland. Address on Union of England and Scotland. 1698. p. 89.
Sergeant, Mayor's. Salary of. 1647. p. 71.
Session. Order to erect Fabricke fit for the Session at the Public Assizes of the County against the East Wall of the School House. 1656. p. 140.
Seven Stars. Lease of per-presture lying between Messuage called Seven Stars and now being the Ship (White Lion). 1698. p. 105.
Shire Hall. Ordered that leave be given to subscribers for County Shire Houses to erect a Shire House, Town Hall and Council Chamber in place where Town Hall and Council Chamber now stand. 1747. p. 72.
Shop. Person required to shut his shop as evidence that he was not entitled to trade in Town. 1698. p. 107.
Show-penny (see "Toll of Show-penny.")
Silver street. Lease of Messuage. 1698. p. 79.
Skittle House, Lease of. 1664. p.p. 114, 272.
Soldiers. Guard on Bridge. Order for reimbursing Mayor for payments for fire and candle spent at Soldiers Guard on Bridge. 1664. p.p. 154, 163.
Spittle House. Lease of Spittle House near Pest House Close. 1697. p. 51.
Lease of. 1698. p.p. 60, 92.
Lease of part of Spittle-house in St. Loyes. 1730. Sep. 14.
Stallage. Stallage, Mood Hall or Guildhall. 1747. p. 53.
St. Andrew, Holborn. For admitting Dr. Barbon tenant in possession of the Corporation Lands in Holborn if he can agree with Mr. Thompson. 1664. p. 269.

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Order for viewing boundaries. 1664. p. 205.

Demand of rent. 1665. p. 34.

Commencement of a suit in Chancery for recovery of lands. 1647. p. 11.

"Whereas the Corpacon have exhibited their bill in the hoble. Court of Chancerie against Sir Thomas Fisher Baronett, and others for a Comission to bee directed to some psons to set out land and away thereto in the psh of St. Andrew Holborne in the countie of Midd whereof ye said Corpacon were and are seised by conveyance from Sir Willm Harp and his wife to certaine charitable uses The wch land lying intermyngled with ye defendants lands the bounds thereof have been confounded and obscurred through long unitie of possession in the occupyers of both pties lands unto whom the Corpacon Farmors who had and have long leases from the Corpacon did by combynacon and wthout ye privitye of the said Corpacon lease out the Corpacon lands But the defendants in theire answers not confessing the tytle of ye Corpacon so fullie as therupon to ground the desired Commission the said Corpacon were put to prove their tytle in order to the said Commission And whereas Mr. Maior being ye Sollecitor of ye said Corpacon informed that the said cause upon the XXVIIth day of June last comyng openlie to hearing upon the said poynt of title the Court did adjudge the said Corpacon to have made a 1647. p. 31.

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sufficient tytle Whereuphn to ground a Comission for settyng out the lands in questyon and that ye Councell of ye Corpacon at ye said hearing did offer and assent that the said Corpacon should accept of other lands answerable in value to ye controverted lands and that consideracon should bee had of buyldings wch the defendants Councell suggested to have been made upon ye lands in question hath proposed the matter in this psent Councell Now wee doe fore and in the name of the Corpacon disclaime and disavow the said offer and assent and hereby declare that if anye such offer or assent were made or gyven the same was done without the privitye of us or of the said Corpacon and that wee or the said Corpacon did never gyve any power or direccon to the Councell in the said cause or to any other to make or gyve anie such offer or assent nor doe intend to accept of any other lands in lieu of ye lands controuted in the said cause or admit of any consideracon to bee had of byldings unless the said Corpacon shall herafter expslye consent thereto or referr the same to debate."

Committee appointed to contract for the taking to lease of the Corporation property in St. Andrew Holborn, "which lie betwixt Sr Willm Brownlow's garden on ye East and ye garden late in ye occupation of one Mr. Gearey on ye West." 1647. p. 64.

Order empowering an adjustment with Sir Thomas 1647. p. 85.

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Fisher and others of boundaries of Estates in St. Andrew, Holborn.	
Mayor empowered to put the Town Seal to an instrument for appointing Bailiffs of the Corporation lands in Middlesex.	1647. p. 66.
Persons to view Boundaries of Corporation lands in Red Lion Fields.	1697. p. 51.
Proposal to build Church on Corporation Ground in Holborn.	1698. p. 122.
Mayor's Journey to London to consult with Mr. Thomas and others of the most speedy and advantageous manner of letting the Estate situate in the parish of St. Andrew, Holborn.	1747. p. 147.
Expenses to Mayor in the above case.	1747. p. 148.
Engaging Counsel in the case of Woodward Mayor and others to go to London in above case.	1747. p. 148.
Mortgage of Corpn. Estate to Mr. Thos. Cave in cause brought by Attorney Genl. at Relation of Thos. Woodward.	1747. p. 163.
Two Aldermen to go to London to attend hearing of above cause.	1747. p. 164.
Mr. John Woodhouse appointed Solicitor in the case of Woodward.	1747. p. 170.
Payment of Bill of Costs in the cases of Woodward and Geo. Williams.	1747. p. 170.
Town Clerk to make Leases of Charity Estates in St. Andrew, Holborn.	1747. p. 172.
St. John, the Honourable Pawlet. "That the thanks of the Corporation be given to the	1664. p. 207.

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Honourable Pawlet St. John for his assistance towards building a new market-house."	
St. Cuthbert. Lease of ground in St. Cuthbert leading to Fish Ponds.	1680. p. 183.
Lease of Messuage.	1698. p. 56.
Lease of Land.	1698. p. 66.
Lease 99 years to H. Livius of Land in St. Cuthbert.	1796. p. 135.
Sale of Ground.	1821. p. 97.
Steward of Leet, &c. Appointment of Steward of Leet and Baron and other Courts.	1804. p. 213.
St. Loyes. Leases of 11 years to be made to each tenant who inhabits a house built on the Corporation land.	1664. p. 208.
Lease of Messuage.	1698 p. 63.
Lease of Houses.	1698 p. 66.
Lease of House.	1698. p. 70.
Lease of Tenement.	1698. pp.70, 71
Lease of Messuage with hovel.	1698. p. 79.
(St. Lloyds). Sale of land St. Lloyds, site of House burnt down.	1796. p. 99.
Claim to ground in St. Lloyds on which house stood abandoned.	1796. p. 113.
Lease of land St. Lloyds, Rent £20.	1821. p. 97.
Sale of Ground St. Lloyds.	1821. p. 131.
St. Mary. Lease of dwelling-house.	1665. p. 115.
Lease of Messuage.	1698. p. 67.
Lease of House.	1729. Nov. 19.
Lease, St. Mary's.	1796. p. 135.
Stonehouse Lane. Lease of Ground, Stone House Lane.	1698. p. 54.

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Lease of Piece of Ground, Stone House Lane. 1732. p. 42.

Mr. Nash to pay 1s. per annum, for slip of ground at the Coach & Horses in Stonehouse lane. 1796. June 20.

Stonehouse Lane. 1821. p.p. 306, 308.

St. Paul, St. Peter and St. Cuthbert. Rights of Corporation over St. Paul, St. Peter and St. Cuthbert to lay before Commissioners. 1795. June 8.

St. Paul. Leases to Overseers of St. Paul. 1747. p. 48.

St. Paul's Church. Obtaining faculty for a pew in St. Paul's Church. 1734. p. 5.

Repair of Evidence-house, papers placed in Vestry of St. Paul's with consent of Rev. Mr. Hunt, during time the Evidence-house shall be repairing. 1734. p. 19.

Faculty. 1821. p. 230.

Faculty. Approval of Alteration, contribution of £50 towards alteration and £50 towards the expense of a new organ. 1831. p. 198.

Council consent to alterations on condition that a faculty be granted. 1833. p. 212.

Appointment of an organist, Salary £20. 1833. p. 247.

After stating that subscriptions had been raised for purchasing and fixing a good "tuneable "organ in the parish Church of St. Paul to "continue soe long as the religion and liturgy "of the Church of England by law established "shall endure," order to "allow twenty pounds "per ann. to be paid half yearly out of the "rents and revenews of the said town in our "disposal wch dos not arise from the guift

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"expesly given to Charitable use wch wee "declare shall not be. But that twenty-pounds "per ann. shall be paid as aforesaid to an "organist well skilled and qualified to perform "and play thereon to be named and appointed "by the sd Corporation and their successors "for ever." If Council omit to appoint within one month of a vacancy, the Minister for the time being of St. Paul may appoint.

St. Paul's Churchyard. Lease of per-presture adjoining South side of St. Paul's Churchyard. 1698. p. 94.

St. Peter's Green. Cattle Fair Toll. 1695. p. 45.

St. Thomas' day. Money given on St. Thomas' day. 1747. p. 152.

T.

Tanners may sue persons not being free of the town. 1697. p. 50.

Thames Street. Ground of Corporation. 1796. p. 49.

Theobald's Way. Recorder empowered to settle terms of Lease. 1664. p. 217.

Toll of "this new faire to be kept." 1684. p. 250.

Toll of Show-penny. First mention of distress, Bailiff's toll of Show-penny. 1747. p. 110.

Any person refusing to pay Toll of Show-penny Bailiffs to distrain—if he has no right given by Law to exercise trades—Corporation indemnify Bailiffs for taking distress. 1769. p. 59.

Tolls. Opinion of Counsel concerning Right of Tolling Grain by Barges. 1769. p. 44.

Grain and Bridge Tolls to be let. 1795. Aug. 11.

Grain Toll let at £35 per annum. 1795. Aug. 21.

Bridge Toll let at £46 per annum. 1795. Aug. 21.

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Claim and Corn Toll ceased on payment of £200. 1804. p. 170.

Lease of Tolls of Fairs, Markets, Stallage and Piccage. 1804. p. 249.

Presentment Scale of Tolls, Stallage, and Piccage. 1821. p. 75.

Town Clerk. "It is agreed and enacted that whereas by the death of the late Right Honoble Robert Earle of Ailesbury there is void in this Corporacon the places of Recorder, Steward and Towne Clerke We doe therefore nominate and elect the Right Honoble Thomas Earle of Ailesbury unto the places in this Corporacon before mentioned, Be it therefore enacted that an adress be presented to his Lordship to request his acceptance of the same And that a Patent thereof be forthwith drawne up and sealed by Mr. Maior with the Town Seale And that Captaine Francis Beckett Alderman be desired to present the same to his Lordship And be it further enacted that whensoever his Lop is pleased to intimate his acceptance thereof Mr. Maior is hereby authorized to call a Court of Aldermen to sweare his Lop." The patent was delivered and accepted and his Lop admitted and sworne. 1664. p. 263.

Proceeding against Widow of Town Clerk for non delivery of Books, &c. 1740. July 25.

Satisfactory conduct of Town Clerk. 1821. p. 264.

A piece of plate of the value of £50 to be presented to the Town Clerk for his clear, able, and satisfactory statements during the investigation by the Commissioners for enquiring into Municipal Corporations. 1833. p. 262.

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Town Hall. (See "Shire Hall.")
Estimate for repairing and new fronting the Town Hall. 1747. p. 169.
Alteration to Town Hall Staircase. 1747. p. 171.
Town waste. Search for new erected Buildings. 1676. p. 139.
Leases to all who have built on waste. 1682. p. 208.
Planting trees on Corporation waste. 1698. p. 66.
Trumpington Meadow. Purchase of Land. 1688. p. 30.

V.

Vines Corner. Lease of Tenement. 1791. Aug. 19.

W.

Waste. Search for new erected buildings on Town Waste. 1676. p. 139.
Leases to all who have built on Waste. 1682. p. 208.
Planting trees. 1698. p. 66.
Watering Brink between Great Bridge and Mr. Nash's property in St. Mary's. 1796. June 20.
Water Lane. Lease to Robert Battison of a Water Lane called Bells Lane, South Bridge in Horne Lane down to the River. 1734. p. 62.
Water Side. Lease of per-presture by Water Side going to Newnham. 1698. p. 88.
Wharf. Public Wharf Battison's Ford, Schedule of Tolls. 1821. p. 83.
Order for making Public Wharf at Battison's Ford. 1828. p. 83.
Freemen allowed the free use of Battison's Wharf. 1830. p. 169.
Well Street. Lease of pur-presture. 1695. p. 40.
Windmill Field. Lease of Land. 1698. p. 59.

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"It is agreed that 2 acres of Arrable land lying in Windmill Feild in ye said Town and now in ye occupation of Benjamin Willis be transferred by Deed by the ensuing Mayor to Mr. Wm. Bromsall the present Mayor for his life and ye life of his wife if she continue his Widow and so on from time to time to ye succeeding Bayliffe unless ye two acres of land be recovered from or surrendered by Mr. Southouse into ye hands of ye Corporation and that ye present Mayor have ye rent due at Michmas next." 1726. Aug. 30.

Lease of 2 acres in Windmill Field and 2 acres in Conduit Field. 1747. p. 48.

Leases of 2 parcels of land in Conduit and Windmill Fields. 1747. p. 171.

William IV. Coronation. 5s. to be paid to every resident Freeman for entertainment. 1831. p. 186.

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Appendix No. 2.

The Rentall of the Hagable Rents for ten years arrear ending at Michas. A.D. 1681. Taken out of the Lords Courte-Roll.

William Abbys gentl for fennellwicke late William Newtons and formerly Robt. Langhornes gent., 3s. 4d. p ann. Ten yeares arreares.	33s. 4d.
Mr. Howard Becher for 17ac. acres of land called Fourths, 17d. p ann. Ten yeares arreares.	14s. 2d.
For 17ac. acres and a halfe of land late Farmers als Beards, 17½d. p ann. Ten yeares arreares.	14s. 7d.
For 24acs. acres of land late ye Lord Mordants Rt. p ann. 2s. Ten yeares arreares.	20s.
For 18ac. acres of land late ye Lord Mordants Rent p ann. 18d. Tenn yeares arreares.	15s.
For 13acs. acres of land late Willm Newtons gentl Rent p ann. 13d. Ten yeares arreares.	10s. 10d.

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For 14ac. acres of land upon Clapham Hill, late the said Willm Newtons Rent p ann. 4d. Tenn yeares arrears.	3s. 4d.
Mr. Francis Beckett for a house wth a yard and Barne place in St. Paulls pish abutting north upon Well-streete Rent p ann. 19d. Ten yeares arreares.	15s. 10d.
Francis Oliffe for a messuage in St Pauls parish, caled the Christopher. Rent p. ann. 6d. Tenn yeares arreare.	5s.
Mr. William Beckett Alderman for a Messuage in St. Pauls parish called the Rose Rent p. ann. 5d. Ten yeares.	4s. 8d.
For a mesuage in St. Pauls parish called the Castle Rent p. ann. 3s. Tenn yeares arreare.	30s.
For a little peece of ground on the north side of the said Mesuage inclosed with a pale from ye streete Rent p. ann. 6d. Tenn yeares arreare.	5s.
For a shop in ye Butcherow in St. Pauls parish being a corner shop abutting North upon ye Butcherow & east upon ye street. Rent p. ann. 12d. Ten years arreare.	10s.
For a Mesuage in St. Maries pish called the Blewboare. Rent p. ann. 6d. Ten yeares arreare.	5s.
For a Messuage in St. Pauls parish neere to the Bullring sometyme a mill-house. Rent p. ann. 12d. Tenn yeares arreare.	10s.

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For a Tenem^t in St. Maries pish betwixt ye Blew-boare and ye Crosse-Keyes abutting north upon ye Beast-Markett. Rent p. ann. 6d. Ten yeares arreare.	5s.
For a Mesuage in St. Paulls pish called ye Ramme. Rent p. ann. 12d. Ten yeares arreare.	10s.
For a Dove-house and Orchard lying on the east side the Ram. Rent p. ann. 3s. 4d. Tenn yeares arreare.	33s. 4d.
For a barne and garden lying allso on ye back side ye Ram. Rent p. ann. 18d. Tenn yeares arreare.	15s.
For certayne Tenem^t called Tysoes. Rent p. ann. 18d. Ten yeares arreare.	15s.
—Welford widdow for a mesuage and ground now a garden in St. Paulls pish ag^t St. Cuthb^s Church. Rent p. ann. 23d. Ten yeares arreare.	19s. 2d.
Paull Bamforth for a mesuage in St. Paulls parish abutting north upon ye Moot-hall and east upon ye street. Rent p. ann. 3d. Ten yeares arreare.	2s. 6d.
For a shop (being a corner shop) in ye Butcherow. Rent p. ann. 12d. Ten yeares arreare.	10s.
For a mesuage in St. Paulls pish called the Bull. Rent p. ann. 18d.	15s.
William Verney cl for a little yard in the fish-markett in St Paulls pish. Rent p. ann. 8d. Ten yeares arreare.	6s. 8d.

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For a mesuage adioyning upon ye same yard. Rent p. ann. 12½d. Ten yeares arreare.	10s. 5d.
Joh Paradine for a mesuage in St. Pauls pish next to ye Great-street abutting north upon ye Falcon. Rent p. ann. 3d. Ten yeares arreare.	2s. 6d.
The heires of Olyver Boteler, Esqr. for a mesuage in Potter-street in St. Maries pish. called Gascoignes and 2 acres of land late Hawes Rent p. ann. 18d. Ten yeares arreare.	15s.
Thomas Foster gent for a mesuage in St. Paulls pish over ag^t ye George. Rent p. ann. 1½d. Ten yeares arreare.	15d.
Robt. Bell for a mesuage in St. Maries pish late Willm Yeomans Rent p. ann. 13d. Ten yeares arreare.	10s. 10d.
—Burges Widdow for St. Leonards Hospital late Albaines. Rent p. ann. 13s. 4d. Ten yeares arreare.	£6 13s. 4d.
For certaine lands and closes late Albaines formerly Yeomans, Rent p. ann. 2s. 10d. Ten yeares arreare.	28s. 4d.
For 12 acres of land called Goulds late Albaines Rent p. ann. 12d. Ten yeares arreares.	10s.
For certayn lands in Muzwell-field called Arnolds land. Rent p. ann. 2s. Ten yeares arreares.	20s.

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For certayne lands in Muzwell-field called Groomes & Arnolds late Hardings. Rent p. ann. 4s. 2d. Ten yeares arreare.	41s. 8d.
Mary Risely widdow for a mesuage in St Peters parish being ye corner house over ag^t the Peacocke. Rent p. ann. 6d. Ten yeares arreare.	5s.
Oliver Harding for a mesuage called the Green-Dragon and a close of pasture conteyning about 2 acres adjoyned to it. Rent p. ann. 12d. Ten yeares arreare.	10s.
Thomas Christie, Esqr. for a mesuage called the Vine and other grounds sometime Simon Beckets th' eld^r. formly Stewkley's. Rent p. ann. 23d. Ten yeares arreare.	19s. 2d.
For a tenemt in Potter-street, late Mr. Jasper Christies. Rent p. ann. 2½d. Ten yeares areare.	2s. 1d.
Edward Crash als Baxter for a mesuage in St. Maryes parish, formerly Edward Crashes. Rent p. ann. 6½d. Ten yeares arreares.	5s. 5d.
John Catlyn for a mesuage at St. Loys. R^t p. ann. 6d. Ten yeares arreare.	5s.
Gilbert Stoughton for a mesuage in St Maries pish called the White Hart. Rent p. ann. 5½d. Ten yeares arreare.	4s. 7d.
Richard Dyvet for a mesuage in St. John's pish, late Walter Dyvet. Rent p. ann. 6d. Ten years arreare.	5s.

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Robert Cooper for two tenements in Mill-lane, called Tyses. Rent p. ann. 7d. Ten yeares arreare.	5s. 10d.
John Eston for a garden (w$^{th.}$ a barne upon it) called Pynners, lying betwixt Mill-lane and Castle-lane, late John Blots. Rent p. ann. 6d. Ten yeares arreare.	5s.
Thomas Francklyn for a garden in St Paulls pish, neere to St Paulls Church-yard. Rent y. ann. 4d. Ten yeares arreare.	3s. 4d.
For a garden plott in St. Paulls pish abutting south upon St Paulls Church-yard and upon y^{e} Pig-Mktt. Rent p. ann. 6d. Ten yeares arreare.	5s.
Henry Oersby for a mesuage in St John's parish, late Mary Denys, widd. Rent p. ann. 3s. Tenn yeares arreare.	30s.
Joseph Ruffhead for a garden w$^{th.}$ a dove-house upon it lying betwixt Mill-lane and Castle-lane. Rent p. ann. 3s. Ten yeares arreare.	30s.
Richard Baker for a mesuage in St Paulls pish, lately called y^{e} King's Head. Rent p. ann. 12d. Ten yeares arreares.	10s.
John Fitzhugh for certayne buildings late parcell of y^{e} mesuage called ye Ram, on the south side of ye Ram yard. Rent p. ann. 12d. Ten yeares arreare.	10s.
William Foster for a messuage called ye Hassets-house. Rent p. ann. 3s. 8d. Ten yeares arreare.	36s. 8d.

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For certayn land called Gorhams land. Rent p. ann. 1s. 6d. Ten yeares arreare.	15s.
William Faldo ye y^r. Alderman for a mesuage in St Maries parish sometime called ye Sarazins Head situate next the south-foot of ye Great Bridge. Rent p. ann. 7½d. Ten yeares arreare.	6s. 3d.
For an acre of land at the Buts in the same parish. Rent p. ann. 1d. Ten yeares arreare.	10d.
William Faldo th'eld^r Alderman for a mesuage in St Paull's pish abutting south upon the George. Rent p. ann. 5½d. Tenn yeares arreare.	4s. 7d.
John Gale for a mesuage in St. Paulls pish called the Black Swan. Rent p. ann. 3d. Ten yeares arreare.	2s. 6d.
For a barne place and house in the same pish, on ye back side of ye aforesaid mesuage. Rent p. ann. 4d. Ten yeares arreare.	3s. 4d.
— Gibbs widd for a mesuage in St Paull's pish called ye Maiden-head Rent. p. ann. 6d. Ten yeares arreare.	5s.
Joseph Heyward for a mesuage in the Fish-market in St Paulls pish. Rent p. ann. 6d. Ten yeares arreare.	5s.
Thomas Alderman for a mesuage in the Fish-market in St Paulls pish. Rent p. ann 2s. Ten yeares arreare.	20s.

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For two shops in the Butcherow in the pish Rent p. ann. 2s. Ten yeares arreare.	20s.
John Hancock for a messuage in St. Paulls parish late Oliver Botelers Esqr. and his wife. Rent p. ann. 6d. Ten yeares arreare.	5s.
John Hawkins for a mesuage in St Maries pish late Robert Hawes. Rent p. ann. 3d Ten yeares arreare.	2s. 6d.
John Harvey of Thurleigh Esqr. for a mesuage in St Maries pish called the Crosse-Keys. Rent p. ann. 18d. Ten yeares arreare.	15s.
The Master of the Hospitall of St John Baptist in the Town of Bedford, for ye scite of the said Hospitall. Rent p. ann. 23s 4d. Tenn yeares arreare.	£6 13s. 4d.
For ye Berry Farm in St Peeters pish. Rent p. ann. 16s 4d. Ten yeares arreare.	£4 6s. 8d.
William Reynolds for a mesuage in St Johns parish late the Lord Mordants. Rent p. ann. 7d. Tenn yeares arreare.	10s.
William Joy gent., for a mesuage in Potter street in St Maries pish late Ralph Coopers. Rent p. ann. 18d. Ten yeares arreare.	15s.
William Nicholls for a mesuage in St Paulls pish called ye Red Lyon. Rent p. ann. 12d. Ten yeares arreare.	10s.

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For a close called Sparrow-close. Rent p. ann. 7d. Ten yeares arreare.	5s. 10d.
William Lane, gent. for a mesuage in St Paulls pish at the Well abutting south upon the River of Ouze. Rent p. ann. 6d. Ten yeares arreare.	5s.
For a tenement and orchard in Potter-street late Lads. Rent p. ann. 3d Ten years arreare.	2s. 6d.
For a tenement (being now or late a stable) in St Paulls parish at ye south-east corner of St Pauls Church-yard. Rent p. ann. 6d. Ten yeares arreare.	5s.
Sara Little ats Brooke widd. for a mesuage in St Paulls pish, called ye Falkon. Rent p. ann. 9d. Ten yeares arreare.	7s. 6d.
For a mesuage in St Paulls parish, called the Bell. Rent p. ann. 6d. Ten yeares arreare.	5s.
Thomas Christie Esqr. for a little pightle at ye end of ye malt-house late of one William Linford. Rent p. ann. 1½d. Ten yeares arreare.	15d.
Peter Linford for a mesuage in St Peeters pish called the Peacock. Rent p. ann. 7½d. Ten yeares arreare.	6s. 3d.
Elizabeth Linford for a mesuage in St Peeters parish, next beyond the Parsonage-house. Rent p. ann. 3d. Ten yeares arreare.	2s. 6d.

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The assignes of William Langhorne gt for a mesuage sometyme Henry Lawrences. Rent p. ann. 4d. Ten yeares arreare.	3s. 4d.
The assignes of Edward Lockey for 2ac. of land. Rent p. ann. 2d. Ten yeares arreare.	20d.
John Okey for a messuage in St Paulls pish called ye Saddle. Rent p. ann. 5½d. Ten yeares arreare.	4s. 7d.
The Rector of pish Church of St Mary in right of his Church for a peece of ground in St Maries parish before ye Parsonage-house inclosed wth a pale. Rent p. ann. 6d. Ten yeares arreare.	5s.
Joseph Prigmore for a Tenemt in St Paulls parish called Bredlips. Rent p. ann. 18d. Ten yeares arreare.	15s.
William Odell for a shop in ye Butcherow in St Paulls pish, late William Fenners. Rent p. ann. 12d. Ten yeares arreare.	10s.
The Rector of the parish Church of St Peeter, in right of his Church, for 13ac. of land. Rent p. ann. 13d. Ten yeares arreare.	10s. 10d.
The Churchwardens of St Paulls for a shop in ye Fish-market in St Paulls parish. Rent p. ann. 12d. Ten yeares arreare.	10s.
For a tenement in Mill-lane ats School-lane sometyme on leas to Mr. Walker. Rent p. ann. 18d. Ten yeares arreare.	15s.

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For a certayne land. Rent p. ann. 2s 8d. Tenn yeares arreare.	26s. 8d.
Frances Rayner widd. for Pecks Farme. Rent p. ann 4s. Ten yeares arreare.	40s.
Thomas Woodward for a mesuage in St Paulls pish called the White Horse Rent p. ann. 3d. Ten yeares arreare.	2s. 6d.
Robert Rose for a mesuage in the same parish late Thomas Abbis Rent p. ann. 6d. Tenn yeares arreare.	5s.
Robert Cooper for a tenement in Mill-lane called Tysoes. Rent p. ann. 5d. Ten yeares arreare.	4s. 2d.
Robert Bell for a mesuage in St Paulls pish called the Dolphin. Rent p. ann. 6d. Ten yeares arreare.	5s.
John Riseley gt for ye Fryars. Rent p. ann. 5s 4d. Ten yeares arreare.	53s. 3d.
For 12 acres of land formly Robt. Langhornes. Rent p. ann. 12d. Ten yeares arreare.	10s.
For 2 acres of land late Robert Littles. Rent p. ann. 2d. Ten yeares arreare.	20d.
For 3 acres of land lying upon Clapham-hill. Rent p. ann. 3d. Ten yeares arreare.	2s. 6d.
The heires of Robert Riseley for a mesuage in St Paulls parish agt ye Pillory late Thomas Pares, Rent p. ann. 15½d. Ten yeares arreare.	12s. 6d.

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For a Gate-house in the same parish next to ye Ston-house-lane late ye said Thomas Pares, Rent p. ann. 6d. Ten yeares arreare.	5s.
William Verney gent for a mesuage in St Paulls pish, in the Fish-market. Rent p. ann. 2s. Ten yeares arreare.	20s.
John Rush mu for a mesuage in St Johns pish late Andrews. Rent p. ann. 6d. Ten yeares arreare.	5s.
John Gascoigne for a mesuage in St Pauls pish ag^t St Paulls Church. Rent p. ann. 6d. Tenn yeares arreare.	5s.
John Faldo for tenement in St Maries pish late Ralf Pawlins. Rent p. ann. 6½d. Tenn yeares arreare.	6s. 3d.
Thomas Margets gentl for sundry tenemt^s being now one mesuage wth a barne & curtilage in ye pish of St Peeter. R^t p. an. 5½d. Ten yeares arreare.	4s. 7d.

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Extracts from the "Blacke Booke."

3. Itm. "That no man shall compleyn owte of the seyd towne to eny of honor or worshippe for any matter or cause detymnable wthyn the seyd Towne so that he may have justys mynystered in hys cause by the mayor and bayliffe for the time beyny uppon peyn to forfeytt to the Chambes for every default XId."

4. Itm. "That yf any of the burgesses do disclose his fellowes counsell or do speke any maliciouse or unsemelye words to eny offycer of the seyd towne or ley hys hands uppon hys wepon in the hawlle or councell chamber whereby any of the companye be fretted or disturbed he shall forfeyt for evry suche defalte to the chamber XXd. and hys body to remayne in pson untyll he have payd the same."

9. Itm. "That no artificer of whate art or occupacon soevr he be doe enterprise to sett up hys occupacon in the seyd towne untyll suche tyme as he come to Mr. Mayor and do hym to understand that he is redye to take order for hys settynge up And that the Mayor callynge before hym the bayliffs Chambleyns Bridge-wardens and the most pte of the burgesses shall

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fyrst consider whether the ptey be a meate man to occupye in the towne or not And yf they or the most pte of theym do agrey to allowe hym that then the seyd setter up to pay so muche to the use of the Chamber as shalbe assessed by the seyd Councell or the most of them."

13. Itm. "That evry Burgesse inhabytynge withyn the seyd towne shall prsent the name of suche man-chyld as God shall send him at the next lete holden after the byrthe of the same chyld and that the Steward after suche prsentment made shall recorde the same in thys boke And that evry suche burgesse child as shalbe borne after the makynge of thys constitucon and not recorded as aforeseyd shall lose the benefytt of hys fredome any custome heretofore used to the contrarye notwithstandynge And the lyke order of inrolment to be of Burgesses newlye to be elected and sworne payeng to the Steward XVId. the Chamberlaynes VIIId. and the serjants XVId."

15. Itm. "That evry Justice of the peace mayores brethren and evry other burgesse withyn the seyd towne shall come to the Hall or Councell Chamber at suche tymes and houres as Mr. Mayore shall prfixe unto theym unlesse they have a laufull excuse uppon peyn to forfett to the Mayors for the tyme beyng for evry defalt VIs. VId. And that they nor any of theym neyther any other offycer of this towne to come to the seid Hall or Counsell Chamber before Mr. Mayor and hys brethren or the Justices or any of them without a gowne if he come from hys dwellyng house upon peyn to forfeytt to the Mayor VIs. VId."

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16. Itm. "That accordynge to the Anncient custome of thys Boroughe it shalbe laufull to elect yerely of the Burgesses of the same Boroughe aswell inhitnnts as they that dwell at large one mayor and two bayliffs and that the same burgesses to the seyd offices or any of them elected shall exercise and take uppon hym the same uppon peyn to forfeit to the Chamber Xli and yt evry of the burgesses shall pay towarde the renewynge of the Charter at evry suche tyme as it shalbe renewed so muche money as he shalbe assessed at by Mr. Mayor and his brethern the bayliffs chambleyns and other burgesses or the most pte of theym uppon peyn to lose the benefytt of his fredome and to be forthwithe disfrannchesed And that from the feast of the natyvitie of our Lord God next in anno dni 1565 their shalbe no forren burgesse made but that he shall have contynewallye remaynynge in the seyd towne goods and cattalls to the valewe of Xl or above to be distraynable for such duties and assessments as shalbe due for theym to pay by order of the seid towne."

17. Itm. "That evry pson that hereafter shalbe comytted prisoner to the bridge-house by Mr. Mayor or the Justices of the seyd Towne or by any of theym for any offence other than for felonye shall pay at hys or their detyner to th'use of the seyd house VId. and to the sjants. IIIId. and the scid money to be receyved and accompted for by the bridge wardens of the seid Towne yerely."

18. Itm. "Whereas the serjants of thys boroughe have heretofore used to gather and crave as well of foriners as towne dwellers their benevolance and goodwill towards

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the mayntennce of their lyvyng and that nowe from hensforthe they shall do so no more In consideracon wherof the Mayor for the tyme beyng and eyther of the baylyffs sall yerely gyve unto their serjants eyther of theym XXs. over and besyde their accustomed wages which is evry weke one penye & at Christmas VIs. VIIId."

22. Itm. "That from hensforthe if any townsman or woman make hys last Wyll and testament and die that the executor or executors therof withyn one monethe next after the probacion of the seid Will and testament shall brynge the same before Mr. Mayor or hys brethern at their lette or corte ther holden to be regestrede in one boke for that purposse apoynted."

24. Itm. "That all the bruers of thys boroughe that brueth ale to sell shall brewe and sell for evry quarter of malt that they utter XII. gallons of suffycient peny ale to be allowed by the ale tasters uppon peyn to forfett for evry default to the Chamber IIIs. IIIId."

28. Itm. "That the fermar of the berye farme shall alweys kepe one coen bull and bore accordyng to the old custome and that the seyd fermer with the consent of Mr. Mayor for the tyme beyng and the other farmars of that syde of the Water shall appoynte yerely one honest man to be the coen herdeman for all the inhabitants of the same syde to keep their cattell uppon the coen gevyng hym reasonable wages."

29. Itm. "That when soevr Mr. Mayor for the time beynge hase sett price of any kynde of victualls to be sold wythyn this boroughe accordynge to the anncient custome of the same yf any psone or psones shall refuse to sell the same victualls by the same price or do sell

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the same by any greater pryce that then the offendor theryn to forfett for evry suche offence to the chamber IIIs. IIIId., and to the Mayor for the tyme beyng other IIIs. IIIId. and furder to be ymprisoned at Mr. Mayor's pleasure for his contempte and that no tallowchandeler no other psone or psones that shall hereafter sell any tallow candell shall sell the same at suche pryce and prices as shalbe appoynted and sett by Mr. Mayor fore the time beyng and shall not force any psone to buy other wares with the same candell uppon lyke peyn and imprisonemt."

33. Itm. "It is ordeyned that after the oathes be mynystedd to the newe mayor and bayliffs on Michelmas day that all the Justices Mayors brethren and burgesses to repayre to the mayor's house only and that all comeners and foreners to resorte to the bayliffs ther to receave and take frelye their dynnr. as custome hathe byn and that the Mayor nor the bayliffs shall not be contrybutorie eyther to other but evry of theym to beare and susteyn his owne charges and the lyke order to be observed at the eleccon dynner."

40. Itm. "That at no tyme the Mayor to walke to the Churche for the heryng devyne svyce without one of the serjants in his gowne and if the said serjants doe enterprise to carrye the mace before the Mayor without his gowne beyng not comannded in eny extremytie by the seyd mayor shall forfett for evry time IIs. VId. to be payd immedyatly the one half to the Mayor and the other half to the Chamber of the seid towne and that the mayor shall accompte for the same at the day of his accompts."

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45. Itm. "It is ordeyned that Mr. Mayor for the tyme beyng shall chowes two men to the offyce to be called wood serchers that they may goe aboute the towne onse in evry monethe to see that no inhabytant leay or cowche any faggotts wythyn tenn fotts of any chemney."

47. Itm. "It is agreed that every fermer and other psone dwellyng withyn thys towne whiche have eny lond or leyes in coen felds of Bedford whereon the inhabyters have coen shall kepe at all tymes in the seid felds of Bedford accordyng to order and custome for evry acre that he holdeth as well fallowe as onfallow one shepe and no mor on peyn of evry shepe that is kept and fownd by the fold men XIId. to the use of the Chamber."

49. Itm. "It is ordeyned that yf any of the inhabiters of this boroughe shall occupie or keep fyer in in any howse beyng coved with strawe standing in the body of the towne that then he shall cover the same house with tyle or slayte and that they shall lay no strawe within any such houses upon peyn to forfett to the mayore XXd. and to the Chamber other XXd."

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Appendix No. 3.

List of Mayors from the year 1647.

1647.		Hancocke, John
1648.		Faldo, John
1649,	Sep. 3.	Bell, Robert
„	Sep. 10.	Fitzhugh, Henry
1650.		Easton, John
1651.		Bell, Robert
1652.		Faldo, William, sen$^{r.}$
1653.		Spencer, Thomas
1654.		Crawley, John
1655.	Sept. 5.	Becket, S., sen$^{r.}$
„	March 20	Grew, John
1656.		Fitzhugh, Robert
1657.		Mightnall, Richard
1658.		Hancock, John
1659.		Easton, John
1660.		Bell, Robert
1661.		Becket, Sim
1662.		Riseley, William
1663.		Crawley, John
1664.		Faldo, William, sen$^{r.}$
1665,	June 27.	Crawley, John
1665,	Sept. 4.	White, John
1666.		Faldo, William, sen$^{r.}$
1667.		Becket, Francis
1668.		Underwood, Thomas

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1669.		Faldo, William, jun$^{r.}$
1670.		Lane, William
1671.		Mightnall, Richard
1672.		Paley, Thomas
1673.		Crawley, John
1674.		White, John
1675.		Becket, William
1676.		Smith, Ralph
1677.		Beckett, S., sen$^{r.}$
1678.		Fenn, William
1679,	Aug. 28.	Fitzhugh, Robert
„	Sept. 1.	Bamforth, William
1680,	May 24.	Bamforth, William
„	Sept. 6.	Bolton, Anthony
1681.		Bamforth, Paul
1682.		Paradine, John
1683,	Sept. 3.	Beckett, William
„	Sept. 21.	Cobb, Paul
1684.		Cobb, Paul
1685.		Faldo, William, sen$^{r.}$
1686.		Beckett, Francis
1687,	Sept. 5.	Faldo, William, jun$^{r.}$
„	Sept. 22.	Underwood, Thomas
„	March 8.	Isaack, William
1688,	Sept. 3.	Isaack, William
„	Oct. 29.	Underwood, Thomas
„	March 1.	Underwood, Thomas
1689.		Beckett, William
1690,	Sept. 1.	Bolton, Anthony
1690,	Sept. 22.	Eston, John
1691.		Battison, Thomas
1692.		Smith, Ralph
1693,	Sept. 4.	Thomas, Robert
„	Sept. 28.	Pawlin, John
1694.		Peck, John

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1695,	Sept. 2.	Fairman, Robert
„	Sept. 20.	Chichely, Richard
1696.		Maddy, George
1697.		Faldo, William
1698.		Deare, John
1699.		Kidd, John
1700.		Wilkes, Thomas
1701.		Battison, Thomas
1702,	Sept. 7.	Negus, Philip
„	Sept. 14.	Wagstaffe, George
1703.		White, Henry
1704.		Peck, John
1705,	Sept. 3.	Fenn, John
„	Jan. 4.	Underwood, Thomas
1706.		Walker, Francis
1707.		Day, Thomas
1708.		Negus, Philip
1709.		Crawley, Robert
1710,	April 24.	Underwood, Thomas
„	Sept. 4.	Hornbuckle, John
1711.		Faldo, William
1712.		Willis, Richard
1713.		Maddy, George
1714,	Sept. 6.	Kidd, John
„	Jan. 8.	Battison, Thomas
1715.		Read, Alexander
1716.		Overey, David
1717.		Hawkins, George

From 1717 to 1721 Minutes cannot be found.

1721.		Pulley, John
1722.		Battison, Thomas
1723.		Fleming, Henry
1724.		Day, John
1725.		Bromsall, William
1726.		Lake, William, sen^{r}.

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1727.	Bardolph, John
1728.	Ovray, D.
1729.	Hawkins, George
1730.	Staines, William
1731.	Cave, Thomas
1732.	Hawes, Thomas
1733.	Haslewood, Peter
1734.	Walker, Francis
1735.	Battison, Robert
1736.	Edward, Thomas
1737.	Maddey, Thomas
1738.	Phillips, Gidney
1739.	Grey, John
1740.	Richardson, Samuel
1741.	Battison, Robert
1742.	Hayes, Isaac
1743.	Hornbuckle, John
1744.	Russell, John
1745.	Webb, John
1746.	Hill, John
1747.	Webb, William
1748.	Richardson, Samuel
1749.	Bailey, James
1750.	Phillips, Gidney
1751.	Chamberlain, James
1752.	Cave, Thomas
1753.	Palmer, William
1754.	Richards, Robert
1755, Aug. 21.	Phillips, Gidney
„ Sept. 1.	Cave, Richard
1756.	Parker, William, senr.
1757.	Howard, John
1758.	Cave, Richard
1759.	Hill, John
1760.	Richardson, Samuel

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1761.	Webb, William
1762.	Parker, William
1763.	Cave, John
1764.	Chamberlain, James
1765.	Knight, Thomas
1766.	Howard, John
1767.	Phillips, Gidney
1768.	Heaven, John
1769.	Cawne, John
1770.	Cave, Richard
1771.	Parker, William
1772.	Chapman, Edward
1773.	Phillips, Gidney
1774.	Cawne, John
1775.	Parker, John
1776.	Barton, Anthony
1777.	Phillips, Gidney
1778.	Palmer, John
1779.	Parker, William, jr.
1780.	Barton, Anthony
1781.	Howard, Thomas
1782.	Pateman, William
1783.	Parker, William
1784.	Cave, John
1785.	Palmer, William
1786.	Partridge, Thomas
1787.	Smith, William
1788, Sept. 1.	Parker, William
1789, Feb. 6.	Parker, William
„ Feb. 23.	Parker, William
„ July 8.	Parker, William
„ Sept. 7.	Smith, William
1790.	Clayton, Thomas
1791.	Small, Thomas
1792.	Parker, William

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1793.	Wing, John
1794.	Cockman, Thomas
1795.	Nash, Peregrine
1796.	Day, John
1797.	Cooke, John
1798.	Webb, Charles
1799.	Chapman, Edward, jun$^{r.}$
1800, Sept. 1.	Green, Francis
„ Dec. 8.	Day, John
1801.	Smith, William
1802.	Elger, Isaac
1803.	Long, William
1804.	Green, Francis
1805.	Campion, William
1806, Sept. 2.	Barnard, Joseph
„ Sept. 29.	Kidman, Thomas
1807.	Nash, Peregrine
1808.	Wing, John
1809.	Cooke, John
1810.	Yeats, Grant David
1811.	Short, Charles
1812.	Day, John
1813.	Long, William
1814.	Green, Francis
1815.	Kidman, Thomas
1816.	Webb, Charles
1817.	Wing, John
1818.	Cooke, John
1819.	Green, John
1820.	Day, John
1821.	Short, Charles
1822.	Long, Sir William
1823.	Green, Francis
1824.	Kidman, Thomas
1825.	Webb, James

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1826.	Short, Charles
1827.	Bailey, Charles
1828, Sept. 1.	Barnard, Thomas
„ „ 17.	Livius, George
1829.	Long, Sir William
1830.	Elger, Thomas Gwyn
1831.	Bailey, Charles
1832.	Nash, George Peregrine
1833.	Wooldridge, Thomas
1834.	Witt, George, M.D.
1835.	Elger, Thomas Gwyn
1836, Jan. 1.	Short, Charles
„ Nov. 9.	Short, Charles
1837.	Short, Charles
1838.	Elger, Thomas Gwyn
1839.	Green, Thomas Abbot
1840.	Newland, Robert
1841.	Mesham, William Robert
1842.	Browne, Joseph
1843.	Green, Thomas John
1844.	Green, Thomas John
1845.	Newland, Robert
1846.	Sharman, Alexander
1847.	Leech, Henry
1848.	Higgins, Charles
1849.	Palgrave, Charles Frederick
1850.	Palgrave, Charles Frederick
1851.	Williams, William
1852.	Williams, William
1853.	Blower, William
1854.	Barnard, Thomas
1855.	Hurst, George
1856.	Kilpin, William Wells
1857.	Miller, George Handscomb
1858.	Howard, John

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1859.	Howard, John
1860.	Howard, John
1861.	Howard, John
1862.	Couchman, Robert
1863.	Howard, James
1864.	Howard, James
1865.	Nash, William Joseph
1866.	Nash, William Joseph
1867.	Gray, Thomas Tokelove
1868.	Gray, Thomas Tokelove
1869.	Burch, Augustus Edgar
1870.	Bull, John Richard
1871, Nov. 9.	Howard, John
„ „ 15.	Coombs, James
1872, Nov. 9.	Young, Frederick Thomas
1873.	Hurst, George
1874.	Hurst, George
1875.	Hobson, James Thomas
1876.	Hobson, James Thomas
1877.	Taylor, John Usher
1878, Aug. 2.	Hurst, George
1878, Nov. 9.	Elger, Thomas Gwyn Empy
1879.	Cutcliffe, John Elworthy
1880.	Hobson, James Thomas
1881.	Hill, James Woodward
1882.	Cherry, Luke

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Appendix No. 4.

The Town of Bedford.

A Rentall of the of the Corporation of the said Towne for one yeare ending at Michas. A.D. 1660.

Thomas Crafts for ye Pest-house wth ye close to it at St. Loys in St Pauls pish and of land in Windmill field in Bedford. Rent p. ann	£3 13s.
The same Thomas Crafts field in Bedford. R^t p. ann	18s.
Elizabeth Becket Widd for a peece of ground wth the buyldings on it in St Pauls p. in Bedford next to ye High-street and Mill-lane. R. p. ann.....	20s.
Mr. Robert Bamforth Alderman for a ground roome on ye west side of ye Ston-house wth a little yard on ye west of ye Room. R. p. ann	12s.
The Ass^s of Henry Pateman out of a shop in ye Butcherow in St Pauls p. late Mr Robt. Bamford Ald. R^t p. ann	20d.
— Hewitt of Knotting out of a shop in the Butcherow in St Pauls p. R^t p. ann	20d.
The Churchwardens of St Pauls pish in Bedford for a ten^t in the same Butcherow. R^t p. ann	12d.

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The same Churchwardens for a shop in the same Butcherow. R^{t} p. ann. ..... 20d.

The same Churchwardens for a piece of ground in ye same Butcherow. R^{t} p. ann ..... 6d.

The Overseers of ye Poore of St Pauls pish in Bedford for a peece of ye Spittle-house tent^{s} in Duck-lane, an upp roome in the Saturday butcherow with a lower roume under it a Mes. in ye fish-mkt & a mes. on ye Bankeside in St Pauls p. Bedford. R^{t} p. ann ..... 54s 4d.

George Gifford for a peece of the aforesaid Spittle-house. R^{t} p. ann ..... 13s 4d.

John Abbot for a shop in the Butcherow in St Pauls p. Bedford. R^{t} p. ann ..... 20s.

Robert Ridgmont for an upper-roome in the same Butcherow. R^{t} p. ann ..... 12s.

Edward Flynt ye y^{r} for a peece of ground in the same Butcherow. R^{t} p. ann ..... 2s.

Simon Becket for two shops in the same Butcherow (wherof one is called ye Stulp). R^{t} p. ann..... 30s.

The same Simon Beckett for a garden plot adioyning upon y Chappell of Herne in St Pauls p. Bedford. R. p. ann..... 7s.

Lewis Margets for ye Chappell of Herne ats ye School-house-Chappell wth a lane leading from ye streete to ye Ryver in St Pauls p. Bedford. R^{t} p. ann ..... 8s.

Francis Peirce for a mes in St Pauls p. Bedford next to ye Ryver of Ouze ag^{t} ye Chappel of Herne. R^{t} p. ann ..... 20s.

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Thomas Harryson for a mes in ye same p. next ye s^d Ryver on ye west of F. Peirce his said tent. R^t p. an. ..... 16s 8d.

Edward Merryll for a mes (being a smith's shop) wth ye barn & ground adjoyning in St Pauls p Bedford on ye north-side of ye Church-yard next to ye Pig-Mkt. R^t p. ann..... ... 20s.

Richard Flynt for a little yard in St Pauls pish Bedford adjoyning north upo Stonhouse lane R^t p. ann..... 4s.

Mathew Faldo for a ground-roome in St Pauls Bedford and ye Moot-hall. R^t p. an. ..... 30s.

Richard Chicheley out of a Mes in St Pauls p. Bedford at ye Bridg-foot over ag^t ye Swan. R^t p. ann. ..... 16½d.

Henry Ritch for ye corner-house in Gaole-lane in St Pauls p. Bedford. R^t p. ann ..... 36s.

Daniel Norton for a Mes. in Duck-lane in St Pauls p. Bedford. R^t p. ann .....

John Abbys for a mes. in St Pauls p. Bedford in ye street leading from ye White Horse to ye Lime Kill. R^t p. ann ..... 7s.

John Reynolds, fellmonger, for a Mes. in Gaole-lane in St Pauls p. Bedford. R^t p. ann..... 16s.

Willm West for a mes. in the same Gaole-lane. R^t p. ann..... 33s 4d.

John Spencer for ye Bridge-houses wth the ten^t over ag^t it in Bedford. R. p. ann ..... 30s.

The same John Spencer for Toll Bridge in Bedford. Rent p. ann.....

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Swythin Mew for a close in Bedford called Honyloves pightell. Rent p. ann	20s.
Mr Thomas Hawes Out of a close late ye Ld Mordants in St Pauls p. Bedford. R^t p. ann	2s.
Hugh Stringer for ye stalls under ye Moot-hall in Bedford. R^t p. ann	10s.
The same Hugh Stringer for a Mes. in ye fish-mkt. in St Pauls p. Bedford inhabited by Judith Arthur Widd. R^t p. ann	6s. 8d.
Richard Cooke for ye stallage of ye fayres and ye pent-house of ye Saturday mkt.-crosse in Bedford. R^t p. ann	10s.
Joane Beacham wid. for a mes. in ye East side of ye fishmkt in St Paul's p. Bedford. R^t p. ann	10s.
Augustine Wellfare for a mes. in the East side of the same fish-mkt. Rent p. ann.....	13s 4d.
Catherine Johnson als. Davye for a Messuage in the same fishmkt. Rent p. ann	10s.
John Wale for a mes. in ye same fishmkt Rt. p. ann	14s.
Edward Jones for a mes. on ye Bank side South of St Paul's Church-yard in Bedford R^t p. ann	8s.
George Gale for a mes. on ye same Bank side. R^t p. ann.....	8s.
Thomas Rowch for a mes, on ye same Bank side. R^t p. ann.....	8s.
Thomas Harding for an orchard in Well streete in St Paul's p. Bedford Rent p, ann	22s.
Mr. Willm Faldo, alderman for the Provender ats Prebend-land in ye Comon field & meadows R^t p. ann	£30.

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Mr. Robert Fitzhugh alderman for a little peece of ground inclosed wth a pale (wth ye Bulk upon it) between the streete and ye Green-house. R^t p. ann ..... 6d.

Mr. John Easton, Alderman (now Maior) for an acre of land in Conduit field, Bedford R^t p. ann 9s.

Mr. John Hancocke, alderman, for of land in the same field, Rent p. ann ..... 18s.

The same Mr. John Hancocke for of land in Wind-myll-feild in Bedford R^t p. ann 18s.

Thomas Pare for 2^ac of land in Conduit field in Bedford Rent p. ann ..... 18s.

Mr. John Grew Alderman for 2^a of land in Windmyll field in Bedford Rent p. ann..... 18s.

Mr. John Easton Alderm (now Maior) and Mr. Henry Fitzhugh Alderm for ye Hermitage Willows in Bedford R. p. ann ... 2s. 6d.

Robert Browne for a piece of ground (wth ye messuage on it) in St Cuthbert's p. Bedford R^t p. ann..... 3s.

The Bayliffs of Bedford towards mending of the pound Rent p. ann ..... 2s.

Mr Thomas Hawes for a piece of ground in St Maries p. in Bedford betwixt the Ryver of Ouze and his mesuage Rent p. ann ..... 2s. 6d.

Thomas Burling for a mes. in St Maryes p. next to ye Blackmore's-head Rent p. ann... £3 10s.

Robert Groves for a mes. at St Loys in Bedford R. p. ann..... 4s.

Thomas Cooke for a mes. at St Loys in Bedford R^t p. ann ..... 2s.

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Edward Leeds for a Mesuage in Offall-lane in St Peetr Martyn p. in Bedford Rent p. ann 4s.

Margaret Jee Wid for a Mes. in St Cuthberts p. in Bedford next to the Church-yard wall. Rt per ann ..... 2s.

Thomas Simpson for ye Toll-grayne in Bedford. Rt £13.

Robert Welborne and John Crafts for so much of fishing of ye Ryver of Ouze as lyes undr ye Great Bridge & thence westward to Trumpington mead wth the Holme next to Spensleys holme in Bedford. Rt p. ann ..... 12s.

John Cleyton, Henry Gewins and Margaret Colliar wid for of meadow & leys in fenlake mead in Fenlake. R. p. ann ..... 30s.

Mr Robert Bell Alderman for a pightell in Escots called Belle-pightell. Rt p. ann ..... 18s.

Mr Boteler. Rent in Biddenham p. ann ... 20s.

Mris Grace Fetherston for a Garden in St Andrew Holborn pish in Midd. in occ of Mr Kewdigate, And two back yards there adjoyning east upon ye garden and south upon the Three Cups Inn wth ye buyldings on them. Rt p. ann £30

The same Mris Grace Fetherston for a peece of ground contayning 5 poles in ye same St Andrew-Holborn p. Rt p. ann ..... 30s.

Mr Anthony Wright for a garden in ye same p. of St Andrew Holborn adjoyn west upon ye garden Mr Kewdigates occupation. Rent p. ann ..... £5.

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Mr Ralphe Wild for a garden in ye same p. of St Andrew Holborn adjoyn upon Mr Wrights said garden. Rent p. ann..... 30s.

Mr Robert Atkins Esqr. for a garden in ye same p. of St Andrew Holborn adjoyn west upo Mr Wilds garden. R^t p. ann ..... £3.

Mr Richard Heble Esqr. (Serg^t at law) for a garden in ye same p. of St Andrew Holborn adjoyning west upo Mr Atkins said garden. R^t p. ann..... £3.

William Tubb Innkeeper for two closes of pasture & a little nook of ground in the same p. of St Andrew Holborne. Rent p. ann £54.

Mr William Samford Esqr. for a slipe of ground in the same p. of St Andrew Holborne betwixt his garden and lyon feild Rent p. ann 20s.

John Beard ats Farmer for his Burgess lot consisting of 2^ac of arable in Bedford and 1^ac of meadow in Goldington. Rent p. ann ..... 3s. 4d.

Simon Becket y. y. for his Burg lot consisting of ye like. R^t p. ann..... 3s. 4d.

Wm Faldo ye y^r for his Burges-lot consisting of ye like. Rent p. ann..... 3s. 4d.

Margaret Waller wid for her Burg-lot, consisting of ye like. R^t p. ann ..... 3s. 4d.

Mr Wm Faldo Alderm for his Burg-lot consisting of ye like. R^t p. ann ..... 3s. 4d.

Mr Richd Mightnall Alderm for his Burg-lot, consist of ye like. R^t p. ann ..... 3s. 4d.

Willm Lawrence for his Burges-lot, consisting of ye like. R^t p. ann ..... 3s. 4d.

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Robt Males for his Burges-lot, consisting of the like. R^{t} p. ann ..... 3s. 4d.

Mr John Easton th'eld^{r} Alderman (now Maior) for his Burges-lot, consisting of the like. Rent p. ann ..... 3s. 4d.

John Easton ye y^{r} for his Burg-lot, consisting of ye like. R^{t} p. ann..... 3s. 4d.

M^{ris} Luxford wid for her Burg-lot, consisting of ye like. R^{t} p. ann ..... 3s. 4d.

M^{ris} Beckett widd (late wife of Richd Becket dec^{d}) for her Burgess-lot, consisting of ye like. R^{t} p. ann ..... 3s. 4d.

Thomas Crafts for his Burges-lot, consisting of ye like R^{t} p. ann ..... 3s. 4d.

Mr Robt Fitzhugh alderm for his Burg-lot, consist of ye like. R p. ann..... 3s. 4d.

Catherine Paley wid, for her Burges-lot consist of ye like. R^{t} p. ann ..... 3s. 4d.

Mr Thomas Spencer alderm for his Burg-lot, consist of ye like. R^{t} p. ann ..... 3s. 4d.

Mr John Crawley, ald, for his Burges-lot, consist of ye like, R^{t} p. ann ..... 3s 4d.

Simon Beckett th'eld^{r} for his Burges-lot, consisting an acre of Meadow in Goldington. R^{t} p. ann..... 20d.

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